

ACC. NO.
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Weather changes forecast

AMMAN (J.T.) — The unstable weather conditions which affected the area on Thursday gradually receded Friday morning, and the weather on Saturday will be moderate with light variable winds, at times southeasterly and low clouds will appear, the Meteorology Department said Friday. Heavy rains, accompanied by thunder storms, fell on Thursday. Commenting on the impact of Thursday's rain on agriculture in Jordan, Under-Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture Salem Al Lawzi said such rains herald the beginning of a good winter. Dr. Lawzi called on farmers to prepare their lands and to grow winter crops in the highlands, particularly of wheat and barley. Asked whether fruit-bearing trees will benefit from these rains, Dr. Lawzi said rains have no direct impact on them. However, he said, continuous rainfall will lead to a good season.

Jordan Times

THE INDEPENDENT political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية مستقلة تأسست من قبل المؤسسة

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Iraq opens trade fair

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq on Friday opened its 22nd international trade fair aiming to boost economic, trade and industrial cooperation with other countries. Products from 64 countries and 21,000 companies are on display at the 15-day exhibition. With the United States taking part for the first time in 18 years, following its resumption of diplomatic ties with Iraq, Iraq's First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan said at the official opening: "We stress Iraq's desire to establish developed and wide-ranging relations (with other countries) based on mutual interests and noble objectives." He also spoke of government efforts to protect the economy, overburdened by a five-year-old war with Iran which has harmed Iraq's oil industry. Iraq's oil revenues had also suffered because of Iraq's sustained attacks on its oilfields including the main Kharg Island terminal, the minister said.

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King sends good wishes to Algeria

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein sent a cable of good wishes on Thursday to Algerian President Chadli Benjedid congratulating him on the occasion of the country's National Day. The King also wished President Benjedid continuing good health and happiness and the Algerian people further progress and prosperity.

Health minister returns

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Health Zaid Hamzeh returned to Amman on Friday after a two-week visit to Britain and the United States, where he accompanied Her Majesty Queen Noor to a world ladies' conference on drugs. In an arrival statement, Dr. Hamzeh said he visited centers of treatment and rehabilitation of drug addicts to acquaint himself with methods used to treat such cases and prepare for applying them in the new national mental centre to be opened in Fuhes.

King Fahd receives Arafat

BAHRAIN (R) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was received by Saudi Arabian King Fahd in the Holy City of Medina on Thursday, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. It gave no details of their talks.

Bethlehem students stage protest

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R) — Palestinian students at Bethlehem University threw stones at Israeli soldiers on Friday in protest at Israel's occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip. Israeli and Arab sources said about 70 students were involved. There were no injuries or arrests. A similar demonstration took place on Thursday at Birzeit University near Ramallah.

OPEC chairman says no policy shifts

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesian Oil Minister Subroto said Friday there had been no change in the pricing policy of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Mr. Subroto, who is chairman of OPEC, contradicted a statement by the oil minister of the United Arab Emirates that each OPEC producer was now free to set its own prices for oil. UAE Minister Mana Said Oteiba said that since the last OPEC meeting in Vienna last month there was effectively a price freeze for all (See page 7).

Bomb explodes in Johannesburg

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — An explosion believed to have been caused by a bomb extensively damaged a downtown Johannesburg office building Friday, sending one woman to the hospital in shock, police said. There were no other casualties in the blast that came amid a hailstorm that had already paralysed traffic.

INSIDE

- * Murphy: Reagan will not withdraw proposal for arms to Jordan, page 2
- * AOID promises aid for occupied territories, page 3
- * Iran-Iraq war still overshadows summit meeting of Gulf leaders, page 4
- * Leaders of Lebanon face threat of extinction, page 5
- * Sharani calls for meeting to plan future of sport in Jordan, page 6
- * Oil pricing free for all, UAE minister declares, page 7
- * Sikh hardliners launch protest march in Punjab, page 8

Parliament reconvenes today with King's speech

By Rana Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Parliament reconvenes today after a three-month summer recess with a speech from the throne by His Majesty King Hussein outlining the country's domestic, pan-Arab and international policies and stand vis-a-vis the latest political developments in the Middle East.

Officials also believe that the King's speech will focus on the government's socio-economic and political achievements and its future plans and Jordan's firm stand and efforts for a just and durable solution to the Palestine problem.

Radio Jordan will air the King's speech directly on its Arabic news programme. The opening session will be attended by members of the Lower and Upper Houses.

Cabinet ministers, senior civil and military officials and leading Jordanian personalities and members of the local and foreign press.

It was not known whether Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi, who arrived in Amman on Friday, will attend the opening session. But two foreign parliamentary guests, who arrived in Amman on Friday on official visits, will attend the session. The two are Arab Parliamentary Union President Ali Al Salami and permanent member of the political commission of the European Parliament Charzat Gissel. The two are here on two separate official missions.

The King, who had suspended parliament in 1974 — years after the Israeli occupation of the West Bank — reconvened it in Jan. 1984.

The King suspended parliament in 1974 since half of the deputies in the 60-member Lower House represent the West Bank and elections to fill vacancies were impossible because of the Israeli occupation.

Also, the 1974 Arab summit in Rabat, Morocco, declared the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people, who make up the majority of the population in the West Bank.

In a short session after it was reconvened last year, parliament amended the Jordanian Constitution to allow 30 deputies from the East Bank be directly elected by Jordanian citizens.

Fifteen deputies for the West Bank seats could be elected by the 30 elected East Bank deputies and the new body of 45 East and West Bank deputies could elect the remaining 15 West Bank deputies.

The 30-member Upper House of Parliament (Senate) is appointed directly by the King through a Royal Decree. The Senate's speaker is also appointed by the King. The speaker holds the office for two years.

During parliament's 10-year suspension, two bodies — which were appointed by the King, the cabinet and the National Consultative Council (NCC) which was set up in 1978 and dissolved on Jan. 7, 1984, enacted hundreds of temporary laws. Parliament later endorsed or disapproved the temporary laws.

The Lower House initiates legislation, which must also be approved by the Senate. Laws are enacted by a Royal Decree or she-lved.

The King has the power to call parliament back for special sessions beyond its normal annual

term of four to seven months. Parliament's first ordinary session after it was reconvened was from January to March, 1984.

The House's second session was from October 1984 to February 1985. It was later extended by a Royal Decree. The extraordinary May-August session which endorsed a number of draft laws or amendments to existing laws, the session was described by Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai as "constructive, efficient and positive."

But the House's third ordinary session which opens today has a hard and concentrated task to perform in a four-month period since 304 laws need to be amended and endorsed.

Among the most important issues to be tackled by both Houses are: an amendment to the Banking Law of 1975, an amendment to the General Intelligence Dep-

artment Law of 1975. Commercial Trade Agents Law of 1974. Electricity Law of 1976, a 1976 legislation abolishing tribal laws, the Civil Law of 1976, an amendment to the 1980 two-year military service law, a 1980 amendment to the law governing Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, and a 1980 amendment to the law covering resident foreigners in Amman.

Observers here expect the Lower House, which will meet in its first ordinary session following the inauguration ceremony, to witness heated debates over electing a new House speaker.

A new speaker is usually elected by deputies at the start of each session. Akel Al Fayez, who served as speaker in the past two sessions, is expected to be reelected since he was the only contender for the post until Friday evening.

The election of Mr. Fayez will be different from the past two sessions because opposition to his speakership has increased in comparison with the past two sessions.

His opponents are mainly deputies who were campaigned for their seats in 1984 on religious platforms, others who claim to be "dissatisfied" with Mr. Fayez. Some also accused him of "offending" them. Others say that Mr. Fayez should be more outspoken in his presentation of various subjects handled by Parliament and to show more support for deputies' demands and criticism of some of the government policies.

The opposition carried out extensive behind-the-scenes consultations to get Deputy Maher Ihsid to nominate himself for the post of House speaker. The opposition promised Mr. Ihsid more (Continued on page 3)

TASS, assailing U.S. policy in Mideast, scorns call for talks on regional conflicts

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The head of the official Soviet news agency TASS on Friday condemned U.S. President Ronald Reagan's call to make regional issues a focal point of the Geneva summit, saying his Middle Eastern policy showed the proposal was hypocritical.

Sergei Losev, writing in the newspaper Sovetskaya Rossiya, blamed the United States and Israel for tension in the Middle East and accused Washington of departing from a joint U.S.-Soviet statement on the subject issued in 1977.

Mr. Reagan proposed in a speech to the United Nations last week that his meeting with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Nov. 19-20 should concentrate on five regional conflicts — in Afghanistan, Angola, Ethiopia, Kampuchea and Nicaragua.

Losev, director-general of TASS, said it was typical of Mr. Reagan that he had not mentioned conflicts "where Washington, in alliance with reactionary aggressive regimes, tramples on peoples' right to self-determination and independence."

He added: "It is the American administration's approach to the Middle East problem which most graphically demonstrates the hypocrisy of the White House's 'regional programme'."

The 1977 statement included a call for the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Arab lands occupied in 1967 and for the Palestinians to be free to exercise their legitimate rights.

It did not specify Palestinian independence, although the Soviet Union supports this. Moscow also recognises Israel's right to exist.

"If the provisions of the joint statement were translated into life, the situation in the Middle East would be totally different," Losev wrote.

"But the American administration, unilaterally departed from the agreement and, jointly with Israel's expansionist ruling circles, scattered the bricks that could have been used to build the edifice of peace," he added.

As an example, he cited "the brazen stubbornness" of the United States in resisting the idea of a general Middle East peace conference and instead encouraging individual Arab states to open direct talks with Israel.

Mr. Gorbachev recently revived Soviet calls for a conference which would include the United States and the Soviet Union as well as the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Losev charged the U.S. with conniving at an Israeli policy of "creeping annexation of native Arab lands."

He assailed Washington for "professing the need to preserve Israel's 'qualitative military superiority' over all Arab states combined, so that the aggressor can continue to threaten its neighbours and commit banditry in the Middle East."

Diplomats in Moscow say the Soviet Union may be moving to restore ties with Israel, severed after the 1967 war, in order to secure a voice in the peace process.

Senior Arab diplomats said an Israeli team and a leader of a Syrian-backed Palestinian group separately visited Moscow last month, and that a top Soviet Communist Party specialist on the Middle East later visited Damascus for urgent talks.

PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat conferred in Amman on Tuesday with the Soviet ambassador to Jordan, Alexander Zinchuk, and conveyed him a message to the Soviet leadership.

Soviet news agency says nothing new in Reagan's new proposals

MOSCOW (Agencies) — The official Soviet news agency TASS on Friday described U.S. President Ronald Reagan's new arms control proposals as the old U.S. position in new wrapping.

In the first Soviet reaction to the proposals, presented to Soviet negotiators in Geneva on Friday, TASS said they stuck to old U.S. arguments, seeking inequitable cuts in Soviet nuclear weapons.

President Reagan's proposal to Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev was delivered on Friday. Ambassador Arthur Hartman delivered the letter during a meeting with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. TASS reported. TASS also said Mr. Hartman and Mr. Shevardnadze discussed the forthcoming Reagan-Gorbachev summit and next week's Moscow visit by Secretary of State George Shultz.

Mr. Reagan's letter to Mr. Gorbachev outlining the new arms proposal "will be studied carefully and passed on expeditiously," the U.S. official quoted Mr. Hartman. The official added that Mr. Hartman, who arrives on Monday, will probably meet Mr. Gorbachev. An official Soviet response could be made at that time.

Mr. Reagan announced the proposal during an interview with four Soviet journalists on Thursday and in a U.S. television address. Soviet reports on the interview were expected to be published on Sunday.

TASS said most Western observers agreed that Mr. Reagan's proposals "are in point of fact the U.S.'s old proposals which have been slightly modified and pre-

sented in a new wrapping."

The TASS commentary, by two military analysts, said Mr. Reagan had not moved in his refusal to negotiate a ban on space weapons that would cover the U.S. strategic defence initiative (SDI) for a missile defence.

"Without solving the question of preventing militarisation of outer space, it is simply senseless to speak of any limitations on and reductions in nuclear arms," it said.

Mr. Reagan said Thursday his proposals were aimed at achieving deep, equitable and verifiable cuts in nuclear weapons but few details have emerged.

TASS quoted U.S. officials as saying the proposal would limit nuclear warheads to 4,500 on each side.

The U.S. definition failed to include one leg of the "nuclear triad" — strategic bombers — and it imposed a "sub-ceiling" only on land-based missiles, or ICBMs, TASS said.

ICBMs "constitute the basis of the strategic potential of the USSR," TASS said.

The third element in the triad is submarine-launched missiles. "There are grounds for drawing a conclusion that Washington's old aim of gaining one-sided advantages at the negotiating table has not undergone any changes," the Soviet agency said.

TASS said Moscow's latest offer, made public by Mr. Gorbachev on a trip to Paris last month, provided for a fairer breakdown of weapons to be cut on each side.

The Soviet proposal suggests a cut of 50 per cent in long-range

missiles, conditional on a ban on SDI.

Moscow considers arms control a make-or-break issue at the Geneva summit.

Earlier on Friday, the Soviet defence ministry issued a one-sentence statement denying NATO figures for the deployment of Soviet SS-20 medium range missiles.

West Germany and Britain have welcomed the new U.S. proposals. West Germany said they would open the way to real negotiations at U.S.-Soviet arms control talks.

In London, Britain also welcomed the U.S. proposals and said it hoped the Soviet Union would respond by engaging in serious negotiation.

In Geneva, U.S. arms control negotiators presented the new proposal to the Soviet Union and chief Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov told reporters that the Soviets had agreed to extend the talks into next week. The third round of arms talks originally was set to conclude Friday.

Mr. Reagan requested an extension of one week to explain the proposals.

Mr. Karpov, speaking to reporters before the U.S. team arrived at the Soviet mission, also said it was possible that the two sides could reach a separate agreement on anti-satellite weapons at some point.

"Yes, we could do that, a separate agreement on ASAT. That depends on the United States," he said. He said such an agreement "might be" possible before agreement on the SDI.

Iraq circulates memo to be sent to Geneva summit

By Hamadeh Fara'neh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Iraq is circulating a memorandum reaffirming Arab support for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and the memorandum has already secured the endorsement of Jordan and the PLO, according to informed sources.

The sources told the Jordan Times that the memo, written by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, was carried by Iraqi envoys to 'Arab heads of state for approval. The document will be sent to U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev when they meet in Geneva for summit talks on Nov. 19-20, the sources said.

The memo will make clear the Arab support for the PLO and urge the two superpowers to support efforts for a just and comprehensive Middle East peace settlement based on U.N. resolutions pertaining to the Palestinian problem, according to the sources.

The memo includes a reaffirmation of the Arab recognition of the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and stresses the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and independent state, the sources said. It also includes the Arab adherence to the peace plan approved unanimously at the Fez summit in 1982, they said.

The sources also disclosed that President Hussein, His Majesty King Hussein, PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat and the Emir of Kuwait have signed the memo.

Iraqi envoys are touring Arab states to meet with Arab leaders to secure their signature on the memo, the sources said.

Reports from Cairo said on Friday Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz had an hour of talks with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and delivered a message from President Hussein.

President Mubarak and Mr. Aziz discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral relations. Egyptian officials were quoted as saying by news agencies.

Mr. Aziz told reporters on arrival in Cairo Thursday night his visit was "part of ongoing consultations between the two countries on the situation in the Middle East."

He upheld the PLO as a partner in any Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Asked about the recent cycle of violence in the Middle East which Israel blamed on the PLO, Mr. Aziz said: "Whatever happens, Iraq and all Arab countries consider the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

The AP reported from Rabat that Morocco's King Hassan II will be meeting soon with President Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev to explain the position of the Arab countries on the Mideast conflict.

Cabinet panel okays higher capital for APC, studies other firms' status

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai presided over two meetings of the Financial, Economic and Planning Committee on Thursday and Friday.

The committee listened to a briefing by Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib on the oil prospecting process in Azraq, and seismic surveys and the Natural Resources Authority's programmes in this regard. The committee also listened to a report about the progress of work on shale oil studies, and reviewed a proposal for a joint project submitted by the Jordan Valley Authority and the Water Supply and Sewerage Corporation.

In its endeavours to overcome the financial, administrative and marketing problems facing some Jordanian companies, the committee took a number of decisions aimed at helping such companies to rectify their situations and achieve progress.

The committee approved a recommendation by the Arab Potash Company (APC) board of directors to raise the company's capital by 15 per cent and rejected a proposal by the Ministry of Supply to establish a fodder factory. The committee called on all fodder factories to improve their production and raise production capacity.

The committee also decided that the Jordanian Tourism and Mineral Water Company should seek to exploit the Ma'in baths as a health spa. The committee decided that the company's capital be raised to JD 5 million provided that such an increase will be covered by the treasury and that private sector buys shares. Costs of the infrastructure such as roads and telephones at the Ma'in baths will be borne by the government.

The committee also took a number of decisions to rectify the situation of some companies such as the Jordan Glass Factories Company, the Jordan Wooden Industries Company, the Arab International Investment Company and the Jordan Lime and Brick Company. The committee recommended to the cabinet that Jordan's share of the Joint Jo-

rdanian Iraqi Industrial Company be covered by the treasury.

The committee asked the Ministry of Industry and Trade to take the necessary steps for improving standards of services of insurance companies.

To achieve this, the committee agreed to the following principles: Insurance companies with a capital of less than JD 600,000 have to meet the requirements of the insurance law by merging with one or more companies. However they will not be allowed to raise their capital by themselves.

The committee further recommended the establishment of a national reinsurance company.

Another recommendation made during the meeting, called for establishing a consortium of high-risk insurance companies to share the high risks, giving priority in high-risk insurance.

It also requested the Ministry of Justice to appoint specialised judges to settle insurance disputes, particularly those relating to car accidents.

Arab summit reportedly delayed until next year

By Dina Matar
Reuter

BAHRAIN — A proposed Arab summit to muster a joint approach to Middle East problems has been delayed until early next year because of persistent political rifts. Arab diplomatic sources in the Gulf said on Friday.

Efforts to hold the meeting, planned originally for Saudi Arabia in November 1985, have been stymied by differences mainly on Middle East peace moves and the five-year-old Iran-Iraq war.

"The view in Riyadh is to wait and give diplomacy more time before invitations for a summit are sent out," one diplomatic source said.

The last full summit was held in Fez, Morocco, in 1982.

Efforts to reconcile political differences between Jordan and Syria, and Syria and Iraq have gained momentum since last August.

President Hussein and Mr. Aziz discussed the Middle East situation and bilateral relations. Egyptian officials were quoted as saying by news agencies.

Mr. Aziz told reporters on arrival in Cairo Thursday night his visit was "part of ongoing consultations between the two countries on the situation in the Middle East."

He upheld the PLO as a partner in any Arab-Israeli peace talks.

Asked about the recent cycle of violence in the Middle East which Israel blamed on the PLO, Mr. Aziz said: "Whatever happens, Iraq and all Arab countries consider the PLO the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

The AP reported from Rabat that Morocco's King Hassan II will be meeting soon with President Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev to explain the position of the Arab countries on the Mideast conflict.

Peres, Shamir deny secret proposal

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir issued a joint statement Friday denying that Israel had offered Jordan a plan outlining a possible peace agreement.

The statement by the rival leaders in the ruling coalition appeared aimed at defusing tensions between their parties and dispelling persistent rumours about a secret plan for autonomy in the West Bank.

The statement said "there were no contacts with Jordan and no plan was offered to Jordan. All the reports on this matter are baseless and their aim is to raise a wrong impression to the public."

Peres told a meeting of his Labour Party on Thursday that he is focusing on how to get peace talks started with Jordan, not on plans for a settlement once negotiations began.

He also accused Ariel Sharon, a hawkish cabinet minister in Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc, of forging a peace plan and then attributing it to Peres.

Right-wingers, including some Likud bloc members, said earlier Peres was preparing a deal which would give the 800,000 Palestinian residents autonomy under joint Israeli-Jordanian control.

"There is a new custom in the country," Peres told the Labour Party meeting on Thursday.

(Continued on page 2)

Beirut militia chiefs to sign accord tomorrow

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Lebanese's most powerful militia chiefs are expected to sign a peace pact in Damascus on Sunday aimed at ending the 10-year-old civil war, political sources said on Friday.

The sources told Reuter "Lebanese Forces" militia leader Elie Hobeika would join Nabih Berri of the Shi'ite Amal militia and Walid Junblatt of the mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) in the Syrian capital on Sunday to sign the agreement.

Syria accelerated efforts Friday to wrap up the treaty and Lebanese officials said efforts persisted to free American and French kidnap victims after the release of three Soviet diplomats.

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad's government sent out invitations to all former Lebanese prime ministers to meet on Saturday in Damascus with Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, architect of the peace treaty. Leb-

anese officials said.

The Sunnis, who traditionally hold the Lebanese premiership under Lebanon's 42-year-old sectarian system, have not been represented in the month-long negotiations that produced the peace accord. Maronite Catholics hold the presidency and Shi'ites the parliament speakership.

It was not clear if Mr. Hobeika, Mr. Berri and Mr. Junblatt would meet or sign the pact separately.

(Continued on page 3)

OPENING TODAY

Soviet Book Exhibition,
At Holiday Inn Hotel,
Great variety of political, literary, scientific & children books in Arabic & English.

The exhibition will continue until Nov. 11.

Murphy: Reagan will not withdraw proposal for arms to Jordan

WASHINGTON (USA) — The Reagan administration's request for congressional approval to sell \$1,900 million in arms to Jordan will not be withdrawn, despite a recent Senate vote to delay the measure until next March, according to Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy.

"We are not withdrawing the original notification," he said to the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Europe and the Middle East on Oct. 30.

Mr. Murphy told the panel that President Reagan would determine whether Jordan has entered into "direct and meaningful" peace negotiations with Israel — which would be the requirement for the sale to take place before March 1 if the House follows the Senate action.

Mr. Murphy asserted that previous congressionally-imposed limits on the sale to Jordan of 40 advanced U.S. aircraft have also been met. Jordan "has met the conditions of the Foreign Assistance Authorization Act," he said.

The act mandated that no U.S. aircraft be sold to Jordan until Jordan had publicly committed himself to negotiating peace with Israel under the principles of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

"This is (Jordan's) position," Mr. Murphy said.

He added, however, that direct negotiations do not mean negotiations for a partial settlement; "It cannot be partial, (Jordan) cannot make concessions or compromises on behalf of the Palestinians."

"Jordan has not reached out for that, Jordan cannot do so," Mr. Murphy said that the sale is essential.

"The reality that the Jordanian military inventory is increasingly

obsolescent is a given. It is aging and it is increasingly putting the Kingdom at risk. We should move as quickly as possible to meet those needs."

Mr. Murphy warned that linking arms sales to the question of negotiations could be damaging.

"Arms sales cannot be used as a reward nor an incentive for Jordan's role in the peace process."

"I would emphasize that the King has started these initiatives on his own. Not to get arms from the United States. He sees the peace process as very much in Jordan's interest."

"When the chief of state says he is prepared to negotiate with the government of Israel promptly and directly, that has one tremendous meaning in Middle East terms."

"He has taken these steps quite independently of the arms issue and that is how he expects the arms issue to be seen by us."

"The military needs stand on their own."

Mr. Murphy said that neither Israel nor Jordan could be pressured by the threat of arms cut-offs. "Neither country can be coerced or bribed to negotiate," he said.

"Jordan is led by a man who is convinced that the current situation in the region is unstable," Mr. Murphy stressed. "The status quo — however long it has persisted — cannot last. It will lead to catastrophe. The window of opportunity... is fast slipping away."

"We have affirmed that we intend to carry through with the sale. The delay was interpreted in Jordan as negative and that we are not ready to honour our commitments."

"We have the opportunity to send a strong political signal of support that this constitutes. The psychological and political signal of support — that is what we think is very important to provide."

"The rejection of the arms sale and the elimination of the United States as a dependable arms supplier to the moderate Arabs... would symbolise, in their eyes, that we really are not interested in playing a role."

Mr. Murphy said that although the arms could not be transferred immediately in any event, Jordan needs to be assured of their eventual arrival.

"To know it is coming is one thing. To be left in limbo indefinitely would be intolerable."

Egypt may get new jets in early 1986

CAIRO (R) — Egypt hopes to have its first squadron of French-made Mirage-2000 fighters airborne in the first quarter of 1986, Air Force Commander Mohammad Abdul Hamid has said.

He told an Air Force Day news conference Thursday he had just returned from France, where he checked on the progress of Egyptian pilots training to fly the Mirages.

Egypt ordered 40 Mirage-2000s in 1982 and expects to take delivery of at least half of them early next year.

They will strengthen a force currently comprising Mirage-5, U.S.-made F-4 and new F-16 fighter-bombers.

Abdul Hamid said Egyptian pilots would finish training on F-16s by early next year.

He also announced that Britain had agreed to manufacture spare parts for Egypt's ageing MiG-21s, since Egypt no longer receives spare parts from the Soviet Union.

Spare parts for Soviet-made weapons systems have been a problem for Egypt.

385 Lebanese die in October

BEIRUT (R) — Some 385 people met violent deaths in Lebanon last month, compared with September's toll of 425, militia, security and hospital sources said.

Fierce fighting in the northern port of Tripoli between Muslim fundamentalist and Syrian-backed militias killed about 300 people in October. It brought the overall toll to 500 for the 19-day battle, which started in September.

The October figure raised the total for the year to date throughout Lebanon to 3,072, an increase on the toll of 1,983 in the first 10 months of last year.

Clashes between Muslim mil-

itias and army troops in and around Beirut killed 24 people, the sources said.

In Muslim-controlled West Beirut, a bomb explosion killed five people and two died in clashes between the Shi'ite Amal militia and Palestinians in nearby refugee camps.

The toll included Soviet consular secretary Arkady Katkov, whose body was found in west Beirut two days after he and three other Soviet officials were kidnapped by gunmen.

At least two people were killed in east Beirut in clashes between rival Falangist militias.

In South Lebanon, Muslim mil-

itias killed eight alleged Israeli collaborators. Israeli troops or their militia allies killed 12 people.

Three died in clashes near the port of Sidon between Muslim militias and the pro-Israeli "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) militia defending the Christian town of Jezzine.

A suicide car bomber lost his life attacking an SLA post on the edge of Israel's self-proclaimed border security zone.

An Israeli air raid on Palestinian commando bases in the Bekaa Valley in eastern Lebanon claimed three lives.

About 24 people died in non-political violence.

Giacomelli takes over as UNRWA chief

BEIRUT (R) — Senior Italian diplomat Giorgio Giacomelli Friday succeeded Sweden's Olof Rydbeck at the head of the U.N. agency providing relief to more than a million Palestinian refugees in the Middle East.

An announcement by Beirut office of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) said Mr. Giacomelli, 55, took over as commissioner-general following Mr. Rydbeck's retirement Thursday.

Mr. Rydbeck held the post for more than six years, the statement said.

With 17,000 employees, mainly teachers and health workers, UNRWA is the biggest U.N. agency in terms of staff. It is currently experiencing a financial crisis.

The agency provides educational, health and food relief services to some 1,330,000 reg-

istered Palestinian refugees in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Before joining UNRWA, Mr. Giacomelli was director-general of Italy's Department of Co-operation and Development which handles Italian aid programmes for developing nations, the statement said. He was ambassador to Syria from 1976 to 1980.

ectedly affected by the election. But it could change the strength of the Diko Party which held nine seats in the old parliament.

The centre-right party said the new elections would determine the course to be followed on the Cyprus question.

Rally and Akel have pressed for Mr. Kyprianou's ouster since the collapse last January of talks with Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş aimed at reuniting Cyprus.

Political wrangle dissolves Cyprus parliament

NICOSIA (R) — Six hours of bitter debate over the leadership of President Spyros Kyprianou ended in a unanimous vote by the Cyprus parliament Friday to dissolve and hold elections on Dec. 8.

"Unanimous in their differences," ran one newspaper headline summing up a noisy session which ended at 3:30 a.m. (0130 GMT).

The elections are likely to stir up a year-old political wrangle over Mr. Kyprianou's handling of efforts to reunite Cyprus.

The dissolution immediately set political parties to work selecting candidates, distributing campaign posters and organising voter-registration drives.

The two main opposition parties, the right-wing Rally and Communist Akel which held a combined 23 seats in the 35-member house, pressed for fresh elections as a test of popular support for Mr. Kyprianou, whom they want to resign.

Mr. Kyprianou, whose term expires in 1988, will not be di-

rectly affected by the election. But it could change the strength of the Diko Party which held nine seats in the old parliament.

The centre-right party said the new elections would determine the course to be followed on the Cyprus question.

Rally and Akel have pressed for Mr. Kyprianou's ouster since the collapse last January of talks with Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş aimed at reuniting Cyprus.

Zia's Egyptian visit to boost Islamic ties

CAIRO (R) — Pakistan's President Mohammad Zia ul Haq is due here Saturday on a visit Pakistani officials said was part of continuing efforts to forge closer links with Islamic countries.

Gen. Zia and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak will have two formal rounds of talks during the three-day visit, the first by a Pakistani leader to Cairo in more than 20 years.

It follows a trip to Pakistan by Mr. Mubarak in 1983, and a visit to Egypt by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi in June.

A spokesman for the Pakistan embassy in Cairo said Gen. Zia and Mr. Mubarak would discuss the Non-Aligned Movement, of which both their countries are members, as well as bilateral, regional and international affairs.

Mr. Mubarak's top political

advisor, Osama Al Bazz, said in a statement this week the talks were of particular significance ahead of the Geneva superpower summit this month and a European Community summit in Luxembourg on Dec. 2-3.

Officials in Islamabad said Gen. Zia's visit was part of efforts by Pakistan to forge closer links with Islamic countries.

Peres, Shamir deny secret proposal

(Continued from page 1)

"Likud ministers prepare a document, stamp 'top secret' across the top and sign my name to it. Then they come running to me demanding clarification."

It was the second cabinet row this week. On Monday Peres stood firm against Likud critics and won an overwhelming parliamentary vote for a proposal to open direct peace talks with Jordan. The Kingdom has ruled out such talks.

Reports of a secret plan for the West Bank surfaced in the independent Israeli newspaper Haaretz on Tuesday. Peres' office dismissed it as nonsense.

Yuval Ne'eman, of the small, ultra-nationalist Tebiya party, told reporters he had seen a copy of the secret plan. Other right-wingers, including Sharon, pressed Peres to disavow any such plan.

Shamir, who is fighting a Sharon challenge for the Likud bloc leadership, backed Peres in the row over the plan.

"I haven't heard that anyone in the Israeli government is about to propose such a plan," he told reporters on Thursday.

Right-wingers, who oppose giving up the occupied West Bank, have charged Peres deviated from government policy by suggesting in a United Nations speech that

Israel may accept international involvement in peace talks.

Israel Radio quoted Energy Minister Moshe Shahal as saying on Thursday Israel had received a proposal for Jordan to supply electricity to the West Bank.

The proposal was made by Anwar Nusseiba, a former Jordanian cabinet minister who heads the East Jerusalem Electric Company.

Mr. Nusseiba told Reuters he made the proposal more than a year ago "in connection with practical problems outside the context of any present political developments."

The proposal had not been cleared with Jordanian authorities, he said.

Trade union accuses Tunis of crackdown

TUNIS (R) — Tunisia's main trade union, which is engaged in a bitter wage dispute with the government Friday faced a major crisis after losing control of most of its main offices throughout the country.

Trade union officials said Tunisian authorities Thursday night closed the Tunis headquarters of the General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT).

"The government has decided to wrest control of UGTT buildings. It is determined to tame us," UGTT Secretary-General Habib Achour told Reuters.

Shortly before the closing of UGTT headquarters, police Thursday expelled 400 trade unionists

from the union's Tunis regional offices, where they were holding a meeting, the official TAP news agency said.

TAP has reported that interim regional UGTT committees demanding a national congress to elect a new national leadership have been set up in most union strongholds throughout the country.

It said Thursday this was done in the south-central town of Gafsa and in Bizerte in the north.

The UGTT on Monday accused militants of the ruling Destourian Socialist Party (PSD) of smashing up and occupying two of its regional offices at Sousse and Kasserine. Mr. Achour said the UGTT offices in the city of Sfax

had also been occupied. TAP said that copies of Muammar Qaddafi's "Green Book," which sets out the Libyan leader's revolutionary ideas, were found in the UGTT's regional Tunis offices.

Tunisia broke relations with Libya in September following a bitter row over Tripoli's expulsion of 36,000 Tunisian migrant workers and their families. The government criticised UGTT leaders for not publicly cancelling strike plans during the dispute.

The UGTT, whose annual wage talks with the government broke down four months ago, is trying to end a wage freeze imposed more than two years ago.

UAE lifts ban on Time

ABU DHABI (R) — The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has lifted a ban on the U.S. news magazine Time imposed eight weeks ago for an article about sexual practices which was deemed offensive to Islam.

An Information Ministry official said the ban was lifted after Time apologised in a cable to Information Minister Sheikh Ahmad bin Hamad for any offence it may have caused.

U.S. turns down Turkish demand for military aid

ANKARA (R) — Visiting U.S. Undersecretary of State Michael Armacost has told Turkey his country cannot meet a demand for more defence aid, Turkish officials said Friday.

They were briefing reporters on meetings Mr. Armacost had Thursday and Friday with Foreign Minister Vahit Halefoglu and other ministry officials. Mr. Armacost was also due to meet Prime Minister Turgut Ozal.

Turkey, "waiting more aid and trade as a price for guarding NATO's south-eastern flank and hosting 12 U.S. military bases, began talks with the Americans on revising terms of a five-year defence and economic cooperation agreement shortly before Mr. Armacost arrived.

But serious bargaining is not expected to start till next week, and Turkey meanwhile has let Mr. Armacost know its requests.

The Turkish officials quoted Mr. Armacost as responding that the United States was doing all it could and favoured a "more creative approach" to the problem.

This appeared to be a reference to a possible deal whereby Turkish demands could be satisfied with a promise of more supplies of U.S. military hardware on special

terms. Turkish press reports said Mr. Armacost also turned down a Turkish demand that the five-year agreement be turned into a treaty in order that the aid amount be guaranteed.

In pressing the Turkish case, Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Necdet Tezel told Mr. Armacost U.S. military aid of \$785 million a year was effectively only enough to cover Turkey's trade deficit with the United States.

Ankara wants one billion dollars in defence aid. Turkey's exports to the United States in the first eight months of 1985 were worth just \$285 million, Mr. Tezel said, demanding a greater place for Turkish products in the U.S. market.

He called for more U.S. investment in Turkey and a more active U.S. contribution to the development of the Turkish defence industry, including the high technology which it lacks.

Mr. Halefoglu and Mr. Tezel also told him more help was needed for modernisation of the Turkish Armed Forces.

U.S. officials declined comment on the talks ahead of a scheduled news conference by Mr. Armacost Saturday.

Catholics resume Jordan River pilgrimage

JERICHO (Agencies) — Roman Catholic pilgrims celebrated Mass Thursday at the traditional site of Christ's baptism on the banks of the River Jordan for the first time since Israel captured it in the 1967 Middle East war.

Escorted by soldiers, chanting Franciscan monks in white vestments led the procession to the river, which for the past 19 years has been the Israel-Jordan ceasefire line.

The army said it allowed the annual pilgrimage to resume because the area had been peaceful for years. Daniel Rossing, Israeli liaison officer with Christian churches, said other stretches of the Biblical river may be opened to worshippers if the security zone stayed quiet.

As 200 pilgrims took open-air communion there was no sign of Jordanian forces who patrol the

other side of the 30-metre-wide river.

Israeli officers said that for years the spot was a favourite infiltration route for Palestinian commandos and troops had to clear minefields to make way for the pilgrimage.

An army jeep mounted with machine guns stood guard about 50 metres from the Cupola, where Franciscan monks wearing white vestments over their brown robes chanted Latin hymns and prayers. The celebrants, mostly Palestinians or priests from the Jerusalem Patriarchate, crowded around the Cupola and took communion from the Custodian of the Holy Land, Monsignor Ignazio Mancini.

"We used to come in the morning and eat here and stay all day. Now we pray for an hour and go home," said Fuad Haddalah, owner

of a Jerusalem printing press. "But it's very nice to come back of course."

A dozen monasteries and Christian shrines lie abandoned and scarred by war along the river's meandering course.

Four years ago the Israelis opened a small area belonging to the Greek Orthodox Church adjacent to the Catholic site. Rossing said.

Another four or five denominations are still waiting for permission to regain access to their sites, which is restricted due to security considerations, he said. A light drizzle splashed into the water as some of the worshippers climbed down stone stairs to the river's edge to fill plastic bottles with holy water.

The celebrants travelled with a military escort, in a convoy of buses from the ancient city of Jericho along a fenced-off road through Israel's front lines.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION Tel: 773111-19	20:00 The 15th Century A.H. 20:30 The Young Sound 21:00 News Summary 21:05 25 Years of Rock 21:15 News Summary 22:00 The Blues 22:05 News Summary 23:05 Country Music 23:15 World News 23:30 Close down
MAIN CHANNEL	10:00 National songs 10:30 The opening of the ordinary session of the parliament and His Majesty King Hussein's speech from the Throne 17:00 Cartoons 17:30 Children's Programmes 18:10 Local Programme 18:45 Arabic Series 19:45 Tomorrow's Programme 20:00 News in Arabic 20:40 Arabic Series 21:00 Tomorrow's Programmes and Varieties 22:00 Arabic Play 23:00 News in Arabic 23:30 Play Continued
FOREIGN CHANNEL	10:00 Le tour du monde en 80 jours 10:30 La portance de pain 10:50 News in French 10:55 Aujourd'hui en France 19:30 News in Hebrew 20:00 News in Arabic 20:30 It's Your Move (Comedy Series) 21:00 Documentary: Automania 21:20 Saturday Variety Show 22:00 News in English 22:30 Best Seller: Densbury (Part 1) 22:35 Treat Williams, Sally Kellerman
RADIO JORDAN 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM 855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM Tel: 774111-19	07:00 Light Music 07:30 Newsday 08:00 Morning Show 09:00 News Summary 10:00 Pop Session 10:30 News Summary 10:45 Jordan Weekly 11:00 Pop Session cont. 11:30 News Summary 12:00 Pop Session cont. 12:30 News Bulletin 14:10 Jordan Weekly 14:30 News Summary 15:00 Concert Hour 16:00 News Summary 16:05 Instrumentals 16:30 Old Favorites 17:00 Talking Points 17:30 Animal Vegetable Mineral 18:00 News Summary 18:05 Top Twenty 19:00 News 19:30 Date with a Star
VOICE OF AMERICA 1260 MW, 7200, 9565, 11740 11925 and 15210 KHz	06:00 News, 06:10 VOA Morning 06:30 News Summary VOA Morning 07:00 News 07:10 Closeup 07:30 News Summary VOA Morning 08:00 News 08:10 VOA Morning 08:30 News Summary VOA Morning 09:00 News 09:10 Closeup 09:30 News Summary VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10 Closeup 10:30 News Summary VOA Morning 11:00 News 11:10 Closeup 11:30 News Summary VOA Morning 12:00 News 12:10 Closeup 12:30 News Summary VOA Morning 13:00 News 13:10 Closeup 13:30 News Summary VOA Morning 14:00 News 14:10 Closeup 14:30 News Summary VOA Morning 15:00 News 15:10 Closeup 15:30 News Summary VOA Morning 16:00 News 16:10 Closeup 16:30 News Summary VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Closeup 17:30 News Summary VOA Morning 18:00 News 18:10 Closeup 18:30 News Summary VOA Morning 19:00 News 19:10 Closeup 19:30 News Summary VOA Morning 20:00 News 20:10 Closeup 20:30 News Summary VOA Morning 21:00 News 21:10 Closeup 21:30 News Summary VOA Morning 22:00 News 22:10 Closeup 22:30 News Summary VOA Morning 23:00 News 23:10 Closeup 23:30 News Summary VOA Morning 24:00 News and Editorial

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS	CINEMA	CULTURAL CENTRES	CHURCHES	MUSEUMS
Closed Tuesdays, Tel. 630128. Museum of Military Memorabilia Collection of military memorabilia dating from the Arab Revolt of 1916. Sports Club, Amman. Opening hours 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. Closed Saturdays, Tel. 664240. Popular Life of Jordan Museum: 100 to 150 year old items such as costumes, weapons, musical instruments, etc. Opening hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Tuesdays, Tel. 637169.	* Exhibition entitled "From Götterburg to Electronics" at the Goethe Institute. Open to public from Oct. 27 to Nov. 2 excluding Fridays. * The first painting exhibition by artist Ibrahim Hiyas at the Housing Bank Complex (until Nov. 15).	* "Le Boucher" at 7:45 p.m. at the French Cultural Centre.	Royal Cultural Centre, Tel. 661026/ American Centre Library, 64371 British Council, 6361478 French Cultural Centre, 637009 Goethe Institute, 641993 Soviet Cultural Centre, 64203 Spanish Cultural Centre, 624049 Turkish Cultural Centre, 639777 Haya Arts Centre, 665195 Husseini Youth City, 647193 Y.W.C.A., 664251 Amman Municipal Library, 843535 University of Jordan Library, 843535	St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590. Church of the Assumption (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, Tel. 624590. De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman, 661757. Church of the Annunciation (Greek Orthodox) Jabal Amman, 623541. Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman, 678906. Armenian Catholic Church Ashrafieh, 771331. Armenian Orthodox Church Ashrafieh, 77261. St. Ephraim Church (Syrian Orthodox) Ashrafieh, 771751. Armenian International Church (Inter-denominational): meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmezzeh, 677534. Evangelical Lutheran Church, Jabal Amman, 6th Circle, (Rev. N. Sair), Tel. 811295. Rainbow Congregation (Inter-denominational): meets in the Church of the Redeemer, Jabal Amman, Tel. 663249.	Polze Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also models from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Year-round. Tel. 651760. Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qaf (Circled Hill). Opening hours: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays. Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mount Lebanon, Jabal Amman. Opening hours: 10 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

JUEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT	MARITIME TRAFFIC	WEATHER	HOSPITALS	MONEY EXCHANGE	MARKET PRICES
This information is supplied by Alia International Airport, Tel. (08) 52200-5, where it should always be verified.	Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port: — Normandia — Brave Eagle — Lanka Sri Lanka — Abu Radda — Alshara Amin Kwarar and Sons Company, Tel. 622324-9 at your service.	Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology. A slight increase in temperature is expected, with southeasterly moderate winds. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and calm sea. Low/high temperature in deg. C: Amman 9/25 Aqaba 15/28 Dahsh 8/26 Jordan Valley 14/32 Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 24, Aqaba 27, Hama 27, Zarqa 29, Amman 29 per cent, Aqaba 23 per cent.	Husseini Medical Centre, 813813/22 Khaldi Maternity, J. A., 644281/6 Akhil Maternity, J. A. Amman, 644241/2 Jabal Amman Maternity, 642362 Midwife, J. Amman, 656140 Palestine, Shmezzeh, 664174 Shmezzeh Hospital, 669131 University Hospital, 845845/65 Al-Musayyir Hospital, 667227/9 The Islamic, Abadi, 664123/7 Al-Ahli, Abadi, 664146 Al-Mutajir, 77101/3 Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh, 77511/26 Army, Marfa, 89161/15	Thursday rates Local sell/buy rates in JLD Bahraini dinar 995 1008 dutch guilder 126/7 127/7 Egyptian pound 225/ 230 French franc 46/9 47/3 Iraqi dinar 360/ 369 Japanese yen (for 100) 177/3 178/7 Kuwaiti dinar 128/1 129/0 Lebanese lira 21/ 24 Omani rial 1085/ 1095 Qatari rial 102/ 105 Saudi rial 102/ 105 Swedish crown 47/6 48 Swiss franc 174/1 175/5 Syrian lira 29/ 32 UAE dirham 102/ 105 U.S. sterling pound 339/9 344/1 U.S. dollar 373/2 378 W. German mark 143/ 144/1	Upper/lower price in JLD per kg. Apple 180/1 190/1 Banana 300/260 Beans (Mukammur) 250/220 Beans (local) 500/400 Chickpea 190/150 Cilantro 200/150 Cumin 200/150 Custard apple 240/200 Eggplant (large) 110/70 Eggplant (small)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Energy ministers discuss cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — Sudanese Minister of Energy Abdul Aziz Mousa and Saudi Arabian Minister of Energy Abdul Aziz Al Zamel met with Jordanian Minister of Energy Hisham Al Khatib on Thursday to discuss cooperation in energy-related affairs. Mr. Khatib later accompanied the two ministers on a visit to the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) where they were briefed on the NRA's programmes and activities. The two ministers also toured the NRA's facilities, the Muqabein power control and distribution centre, the Jordan Electricity Authority's training centre, and the thermal power station.

Europarlamentarian here for visit

AMMAN (J.T.) — Mrs. Gissel Charzat, a member of the European Parliament's Political Commission, arrived in Amman Friday on the third leg of a fact-finding mission to the Middle East. Mrs. Charzat's itinerary includes and audience with His Majesty King Hussein, meetings with Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, and visits to Palestinian refugee camps in Jordan. Her previous stops were Syria and Egypt.

APU President arrives for talks

AMMAN (Petra) — Arab Parliamentary Union (APU) President Ali Al Salami arrived in Amman Friday to discuss arrangements for the union's 16th meeting, to be held here in March of 1986. During his two-day visit, Mr. Salami will meet with Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayez and other Jordanian officials for talks on the Middle East and parliamentary affairs. Mr. Salami, who is also Speaker of the North Yemen Parliament, was greeted at Queen Alia International Airport by Mr. Fayez.

Ministry of Education to build warehouses

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education signed an agreement with a local company on Thursday for the construction of warehouses to house furniture and equipment awaiting delivery to a number of educational projects in Jordan. The JD 304,000 project is scheduled for completion in seven months. Mr. Barakat Al Tarawneh, the ministry's director of projects, said that the warehouses are part of the ministry's fifth educational programme, which entails building 15 secondary vocational schools in Jordan. The World Bank, the Saudi Development Fund, and the British Ministry for Overseas Development are financing the project.

Tractor inspectors to visit Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — The Vehicles Licensing Department has set up teams to inspect and licence agricultural tractors in the Jordan Valley. This procedure will save farmers the time and money normally required to travel to Amman, Irbid, or Salt for such licensing, a department spokesman said. The teams will visit Mashareh on Saturday and Sunday, South Shuneh on Monday and Tuesday, and return to Mashareh on Wednesday.

Man who shot father, then self, dies

IRBID (J.T.) — A Jordanian identified only as R.A., who shot himself on Monday after shooting his father when the latter tried to take a pistol from him, died here on Thursday, according to a report in the Arabic daily newspaper Al Rai. The sight of his father lying on the ground bleeding apparently shocked R.A., prompting him to shoot himself. However, the father's condition is improving, the report added.

American group visits Petra

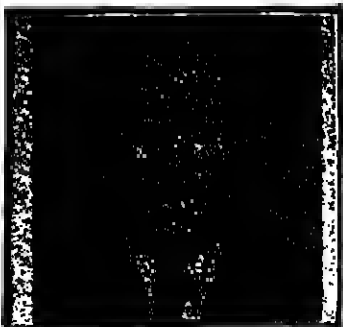
AMMAN (J.T.) — A group of United States' lieutenant governors and state representatives travelled to Petra on Friday, taking a break from their five-day stop in Jordan where they are investigating trade and investment possibilities between Jordan and their home states.

During their stay in Amman the ten-member group is scheduled to meet key ministers, businessmen and government representatives in order to get first hand information about Jordan's role in the Middle East and world affairs.

The group includes representatives of the states of Idaho, New Hampshire, Wyoming, Arkansas, California, and the American Samoa. They are due to visit development projects in order to familiarise themselves with the status of development in the country.

The visit is in line with the spirit of a conference held by the national council on U.S.-Arab relations held in September 1984 in Idaho. It dealt with U.S.-Arab trade and investment and brought together entrepreneurs, government officials, and trade specialists from both the Middle East and the United States.

The U.S. delegation's tour includes Saudi Arabia and Egypt, in addition to Jordan.



Rifai mourns West Bank parliamentarian

AMMAN (J.T.) — Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Thursday mourned the death of the late Said Aladdin who died in Jerusalem on Thursday at the age of 71. The late Aladdin held many senior posts, the last of which was member of the Upper House of Parliament during the period from 1951 to 1959. Before this Mr. Aladdin was minister of education and national economy. He had also worked as a judge and counselor in occupied Palestine.



QUEEN NOOR: was briefed on the results of studies and surveys of children in a meeting at Yarmouk University on Thursday. The results of the studies will be used to help develop programmes to aid child development (Petra photo)

Studies of children presented to Queen

AMMAN (J.T.) — Her Majesty Queen Noor chaired a meeting at Yarmouk University Liaison Office on Thursday which reviewed studies prepared by Jordanian specialists on improving the health, educational, nutritional, and psychological conditions of children.

In her comments, the Queen emphasised the importance of such discussions as a means of laying the groundwork for programmes and policies designed to offer better services to Jordanian children. In this context, she discussed with the participants the collection and storage of information included in the studies in computers for the benefit of experts, planners and researchers involved in the development of children.

The Queen chaired the meeting as part of her activity within the framework of the Queen Noor Foundation's plans to give impetus to social development programmes in Jordan. The studies discussed were deemed useful for helping to establish a children's social and welfare centre in Jordan.

The participants in the seminar discussed the initial results of the studies and surveys of 5168 Jordanian children. The children surveyed were six years of age or younger and residents of both urban and rural regions in Jordan.

Among the speakers at the meeting was Dr. Sa'id Hijazi, dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Yarmouk University, who presented a briefing on the studies submitted to the Queen. The Queen Noor Foundation sponsored the studies to benefit future projects for children in Jordan.

The studies began in 1984 and were conducted by Yarmouk University in cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development and the Swedish children welfare institution. Attending the meeting was Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan, other university and government officials, and the Queen's personal adviser, Mrs. In'am Al Mufti.

Chinese delegation visits Aqaba, praises development

A JABA (Petra) — A visiting Chinese delegation led by Minister of Chemical Industries, Jin Zhong Da visited Aqaba Thursday to inspect the facilities and industrial development of Jordan's Red Sea port.

Mr. Da and his delegation inspected the port and visited the site of the thermal power station. In a statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Mr. Da voiced admiration of the rapid development in Jordan. He also expressed hope for increasing trade between Jordan and China.

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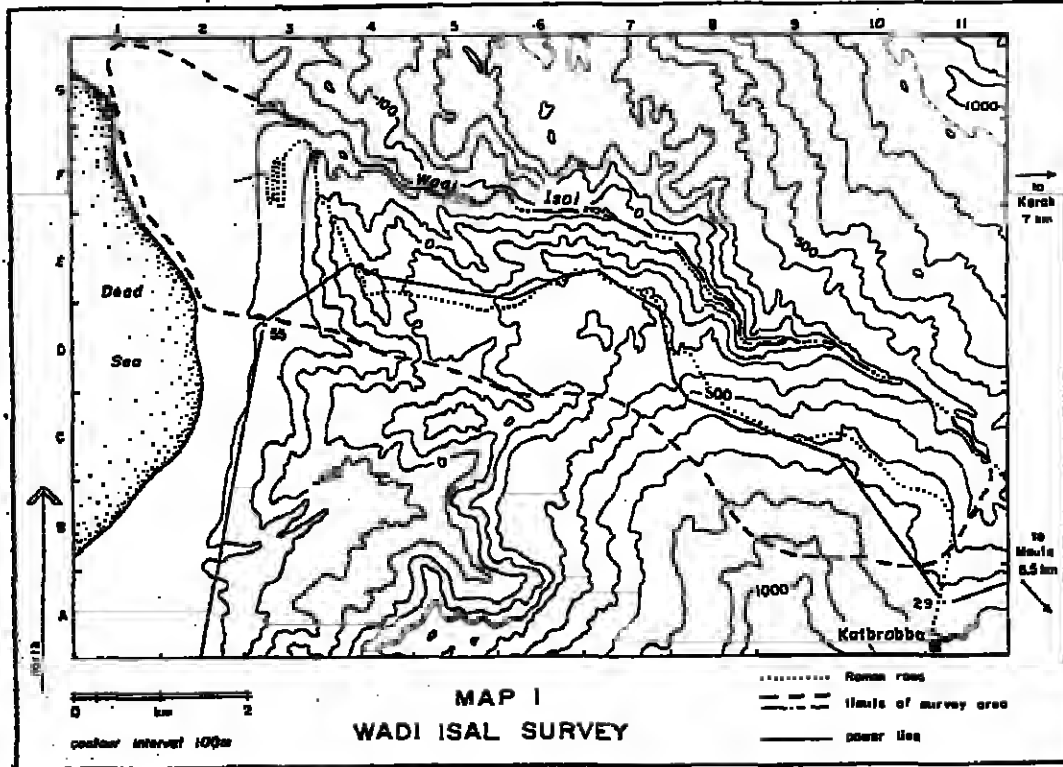
Most of the sites identified were not proper settlements, but rather "transient occupations at best," Dr. Jacobs notes. Only 14 sites (all Byzantine) showed standing building remains, and seven others had fragments of wall lines in the ground. Most sites were small flint or pottery sherd scatters, usually covering an area of less than 200 square metres, suggesting they may have been bedouin camps or even less permanent sites such as shepherds' stopping places or seasonal harvest-time camps.

The oldest evidence of a human presence in the Wadi Isal is flint scatters at 14 sites, the largest covering just 40 metres in diameter. Most had Levallois-Mousterian points, flakes, blades and cores that date from around 65,000 years ago.

A single large site from the Chalcolithic period (4500-3300 B.C.) measures some 900 square metres. It includes much pottery and flint, the remains of a stone-lined water cistern on a flat summit, the stone foundations of a small (4.7 x 2.5-metre) rectangular structure with 60-centimetre-thick walls, sherd spindle whorls, and limestone grinding stones.

It seems to be an isolated phenomenon, for very little Chalcolithic material was found in the rest of the wadi.

Pottery from the Iron II period (918-587 B.C.) was found at 24 sites, but predominated at three that had remains of built structures and wall lines. All three are located on small hills or mounds averaging some five metres higher than the ancient road.



Communication routes elude researchers

By Rami G. Khouri
Special to the Jordan Times

In this, the first article of a two-part series, Rami Khouri examines theories suggesting the existence of east-west land routes linking the ancient civilisations of the Jordan Valley and the highlands to the east. Part two will appear in this space on Sunday.

JORDAN VALLEY. — Archaeological surveys during the past 50 years have identified hundreds of ancient sites in the Jordan Valley and the highlands to the east, but rarely have scholars looked at the east-west land routes that linked the two. In most ancient (and modern) periods, political stability provided the security that allowed economic activity, agriculture and trade to flourish. Generally, the ancient land of Jordan experienced simultaneous development of towns and agriculture in the Jordan Valley, and larger urban centres in the highlands. The same model, in fact, pertains today.

Throughout much of history, the cities of the Jordanian plateau and those in the Jordan Valley shared cultural traits and traded with one another, but historians and archaeologists have never fully documented the routes that linked them.

Only in recent years have archaeologists started to survey the many east-west wadis that served as communications routes between the valley and the plateau, often with unexpected results.

The survey of the Wadi Isal conducted in 1981 by the American scholar Dr. Linda K. Jacobs aimed not only to identify ancient sites and occupation patterns, but also specifically to determine if the Wadi Isal was an important communication route in the Early Bronze Age (3300-2050 B.C.).

Walled towns

During the Early Bronze (EB) Age, the "southern ghor" area of the Jordan Rift Valley, south of the Wadi Mujib, was intensively inhabited by trading and farming towns. Some of these walled towns — among humankind's first true "urban" settlements — included Bab Ed-Dhara, Numaira, Feifeh and Safi. Several Early Bronze Age walled towns have also been identified on the Moabite plateau to the east, not far from Kerak between the Wadi Mujib and the Wadi Hasa.

"There must have been one or more major communication routes between the EB towns in the highlands and the valley," Dr. Jacobs said in a recent interview here. "From the valley towns, she added, 'the major trade route probably crossed the Lisan Peninsula (in the southern basin of the Dead Sea) to reach the cities of Palestine, Gaza, the Sinai and Egypt.'"

The survey also aimed to locate some of the dozens of smaller EB villages and hamlets that archaeologists assume must have existed outside the walled EB towns, but which related to them for trade and security.

"The known EB towns are not big enough to account for the many thousands of burials in the EB cemeteries we know of in the area," Dr. Jacobs said. "There must have been many other smaller settlements in the valley or in the side wadis feeding into the valley. We were hoping to document some of these small farming communities that related to the larger walled towns, which were more of ceremonial, administrative and political centres."

The Wadi Isal, seven kilometres south of Wadi Kerak, is one of the smaller east-west wadis connecting the valley with the plateau, and therefore had been largely ignored by archaeologists earlier this century. An exception was the American Nelson Glueck, who flew over it and photographed it in the 1930s.

Roman road

He identified a few of the more conspicuous sites, and what he called the "Roman" road that runs along the entire 15-kilometre length of the south ridge of the wadi. The route of the road can still be traced today, though in many places it has been completely obliterated.

In fact, when the Jordan Electricity Authority chose the route for a power line from the highlands to the Arab Potash Company's potash plant on the southeastern shore of the Dead Sea, it placed many of the line's poles on or near the ancient road. The dar-

ing of the road was one of the points clarified by the survey.

The presence of the Roman road, and the relatively easy journey up the Wadi Isal, suggested to Dr. Jacobs that the wadi may have been an ancient communications route thousands of years before the Classical period, in the Early Bronze Age.

The survey results totally refuted the hypothesis that the Wadi Isal may have been an important communication route in the EB period. No EB sites at all were found in the wadi, and only a handful of possible EB sherds were collected.

In fact, though the survey identified 90 sites and 32 "megalthic" tombs, very few seem to date from much before or after the ancient road, which Dr. Jacobs believes to have been built in the late Roman/Early Byzantine period, in the early 4th Century A.D.

She suggests "that one must look in other east-west wadis to locate the major ancient communications routes between the highlands and the valley. The best candidate, she says, is probably the much larger Wadi Kerak, which is the main east-west route in the area today. Other candidates are Wadi Feifeh and Wadi Numaira.

Walking survey

The survey team of four people walked the entire length of the south ridge of the Wadi Isal. They followed the Roman road from the valley floor to the village of Kathrabbah, covering a total area of about 18 square kilometres in one month.

An interesting methodological aspect of the survey is that it was not a random survey, covering selected areas of the survey area. Rather, the team covered the entire survey area by walking in 50-metre-wide transects, making only occasional detours because of sheer cliff-faces or fenced-off fields.

They also did not predetermine what would be classified as an archaeological "site," though in retrospect the working definition for a site was the presence of ten or more artifacts in a 10 x 10 metre area.

Most of the sites identified were not proper settlements, but rather "transient occupations at best," Dr. Jacobs notes. Only 14 sites (all Byzantine) showed standing building remains, and seven others had fragments of wall lines in the ground. Most sites were small flint or pottery sherd scatters, usually covering an area of less than 200 square metres, suggesting they may have been bedouin camps or even less permanent sites such as shepherds' stopping places or seasonal harvest-time camps.

The oldest evidence of a human presence in the Wadi Isal is flint scatters at 14 sites, the largest covering just 40 metres in diameter. Most had Levallois-Mousterian points, flakes, blades and cores that date from around 65,000 years ago.

A single large site from the Chalcolithic period (4500-3300 B.C.) measures some 900 square metres. It includes much pottery and flint, the remains of a stone-lined water cistern on a flat summit, the stone foundations of a small (4.7 x 2.5-metre) rectangular structure with 60-centimetre-thick walls, sherd spindle whorls, and limestone grinding stones.

It seems to be an isolated phenomenon, for very little Chalcolithic material was found in the rest of the wadi.

Pottery from the Iron II period (918-587 B.C.) was found at 24 sites, but predominated at three that had remains of built structures and wall lines. All three are located on small hills or mounds averaging some five metres higher than the ancient road.

AOID promises aid for occupied territories

AMMAN (J.T.) — The final communique issued Thursday at the end of a two-day Arab Organisation for Industrial Development (AOID) conference promised to support industrial schemes in the occupied Arab territories in order to enhance Palestinian people's steadfastness in the face of Israel's arbitrary measures there.

The communique said that AOID, in cooperation with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), will extend all possible help to the Palestinian people and will prepare for a special conference to discuss ways of supporting Palestinian industries in the occupied Arab territories.

The decision to support Palestinian industrial development came in response to an appeal by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan in his opening address to the conference on Wednesday. Prince Hassan called on the Arab countries to support Palestinian industries as a means of foiling Israeli attempts to link the occupied territories with Israel's economy.

The conference's final com-

munique also included resolutions on pan-Arab industrial projects, training programmes, and proposals for other conferences and seminars on the industrial sector in the Arab World.

The recommendations, based on a report presented by AOID's director general, called for granting assistance to Arab industrial concerns in solving their problems and marketing their products, and urged Arab states to facilitate the flow of Arab products and Arab nationals throughout Arab World.

They also called for extending help to less developed Arab Nations to enable them to increase their industrial production.

The ministers of industry and their representatives attending the conference especially voiced their

support for projects that would ensure food security for the Arab Nation. The conference urged AOID to arrange for contacts with Arab specialised funds and financial institutions to finance pan-Arab projects.

It urged AOID to carry out training programmes in industry-related fields and step up efforts for the production of electric power in Arab countries and for linking national power grids together.

The conference also decided to open an AOID office in North Yemen to serve Somalia, Djibouti and Yemen and help boost their industrial development. The conference called on United Nations specialised organisations to participate more effectively in AOID's seventh conference in the coming year.

At the end of the closing session the Arab delegates sent a cable to His Majesty King Hussein expressing appreciation and gratitude for hosting the conference in Jordan and for his support of joint Arab projects. A similar cable was sent to His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Jordan, Iraq to expand transport links

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Minister of Transport Farhi Obeid announced Thursday that Jordan and Iraq have agreed to establish a land-sea route linking Egypt, Jordan and Iraq.

At the conclusion of his talks with Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan, Mr. Obeid said that the new line, connecting Baghdad and Aqaba by land and Aqaba and Sinal ports by sea, is designed to improve Arab communications and transport and will help boost Arab trade and contribute to Arab economic integration.

Government representatives from the three countries will soon

hold a meeting to establish a company to supervise transport operations along the route, the minister added. At a later stage, the company will launch sea travel and transport operations between Aqaba and other ports in the Red Sea.

With regard to his talks in Baghdad, the minister said he discussed a number of outstanding issues connected with the transportation of goods between Iraq and Jordan. "I also discussed with Iraqi officials the prospect of exporting Iraqi cement to Egypt through Aqaba, and of offering other port facilities for the exportation of more Iraqi oil through the Red

Sea port," Mr. Obeid added. Iraq currently ships nearly a million tonnes of crude oil annually through Aqaba, and the talks centered on the possibility of increasing the amount to two million tonnes, according to Mr. Obeid.

Mr. Obeid and his counterpart, Minister of Communications and Transport Abdul Jabbar Abdul Rahim, earlier signed minutes of his talks with Iraqi government officials on expanding land and sea transport of passengers and goods, and offering facilities for Iraqi goods and nationals through Jordanian territory.

Parliament reconvenes today

(Continued from page 1)

support and their encouragement showed promising signs until recently. But Mr. Irshid has changed his mind.

Mr. Fayez' opponents say that he will win reelection but not as easily like the two previous occasions.

Observers say that during the first session of the Lower House there was heavy competition for speakership since there were three candidates, including Mr. Fayez himself. The other two nominees were Deputy Abdul Wahab Al Majali, who currently is deputy prime minister and minister of education in Mr. Rifai's cabinet and Deputy Riyad Al Milfeh.

Mr. Fayez was first elected by a majority vote.

However, Mr. Fayez' second election was characterised by the beginning of a new opposition. He won his post by a majority of 47 votes out of the 51 deputies present. Four abstained.

But this Saturday's secret balloting may not go as smoothly as last year's since observers believe that between eight and 15 deputies may abstain. But since there is no other contender, Mr. Fayez would probably be reelected by unanimous vote.

But the observers say that the opposition will apply pressure on Mr. Fayez when he presides the first session's first meeting after he has been elected and oversees the election of two deputy speakers and two assistants, who usually form parliament's permanent council during its third session. Mr. Fayez' deputies during the House's second session were Salma Al Judah and Ismail Al Hijazi, while the speaker's assistants

were Naim Al Tall and Ramadan Hajeh.

Prior to and during the election process, Abdullah Al Kleih Al Sbraidah, the oldest deputy, is expected to preside over the meeting, in line with the House's tradition. But when the speaker is elected, he presides over the rest of the first session which usually ends with choosing the House's permanent council members.

It will be only when the election of the four council members start that the opposition will apply pressure on the course of elections and try to ensure that their allies are elected, according to observers. "This is the time when debates will peak," said one observer.

But the same observer also says that the Senate's first meeting, which will follow the inaugural ceremony, will be very "passive" since the senators do not have to elect their speaker whose two-year term will end on Jan. 9, 1986.

"Thank God that we are appointed by a Royal Decree which has cut short a lot of heated debates," commented a senator.

The Senate's first meeting in the third ordinary session, which will be presided over by Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, will form a committee to force the Upper House's reply to the King's speech and nominate a second vice-president. The Upper House's first vice-president is Senator Hikmat Al Masri, while the second vice-president was the late Abdul Mune'em Al Rifai. Senators will also observe a minute of silence in memory of Abdul Mune'em Al Rifai. A Royal Decree is expected to be issued soon to appoint a successor to the late

senator.

The Senate will also elect a member to fill a vacant seat in the Foreign Affairs Committee.

After the Senate completes its first meeting, some of the members are expected to join the Lower House as observers.

After the speaker of the Lower House and permanent members of the House's council are elected, deputies will also observe a minute of silence in memory of four deputies who died this year.

The four were: Tulkarem Deputy Sharif Al Jubaj, Hebron Deputy Sidqi Al Ja'abari, Ramallah Deputy Issa Akel and Nabulus Deputy Abdul Ra'ouf Al Faris.

The House will also form a committee to draft its reply to the King's speech and they will also elect members for its committees. The committees are: financial, legal, administrative and foreign affairs, education, occupied territories affairs and expatriate affairs.

Observers say that the Lower House will have to endure more heated debates when it elects deputies for the four vacant seats.

According to reports carried in the local newspapers more than 40 names have emerged as contenders for the four seats.

But before the election of the four new deputies start, parliament has to send a written notification to the prime minister officially informing him about the four vacant seats. In one month after the prime minister receives this letter of notification the four deputies could be elected. The quorum for the Lower House is half the number of all deputies plus one.

Lebanese accord to be signed tomorrow

(Continued from page 1)

The sources quoted by Reuters said Mr. Berri and Mr. Jumblatt would prefer to postpone a personal meeting with Mr. Hobeika, who is hated by many of their supporters.

In Beirut, three Soviet officials released by their kidnappers two days ago were resting at their embassy on Friday as doctors prepared a full medical report. A Soviet diplomat said.

Asked when they would be flown home, he told Reuters: "That depends on the doctors' report. It may be a few days."

Journalists have not seen the three men — Attache Oleg Spirine, Commercial Representative Valery Mirikov and embassy doctor Nikolai Svirsky — since their release, and the embassy has not given full details of their physical condition.

The men were held for exactly one month by a group named the "Islamic Liberation Front" — Khaled Ibn Al Walid forces. "A fourth hostage, Consular Secretary Arkady Katkov, was killed.

Militia representatives were due to meet in Damascus on Friday to discuss whether the peace accord should be scrutinised by a national all-party conference, or simply implemented by a new, enlarged government.

The agreement is designed to end warfare that has claimed up to 100,000 lives in Lebanon since 1975.

Security, militia and hospital sources said 3,072 people had

been killed so far this year.

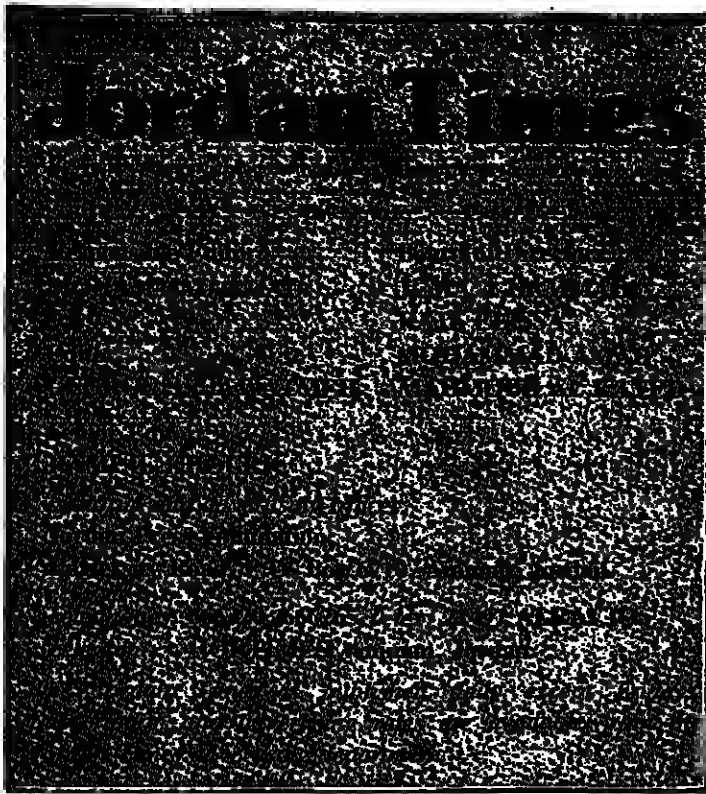
The accord, once signed, will be sent to President Amin Gemayel for approval, the sources said.

Its contents are still secret but the sources said it calls for a gradual end to Lebanon's sectarian power-sharing system which has favoured the Christian minority since independence in 1943.

Mr. Gemayel, a Christian, has reserved judgement on the militia talks, in which he took no part.

Pirelli tyres celebrate 65 years on the road

AMMAN (J.T.) — Isam Tadrous company, agents of the well-known Italian tyre company Pirelli, on Friday held a reception party under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein. The reception, held at the Regency Palace Hotel, displayed the latest innovations the Pirelli industries have introduced to the 65-year-old everlasting tyre. The reception also included video films of Middle East rallies showing Pirelli tyres endurance. Prince Abdullah distributed certificates of merit to local agents who contributed to the popularity of the Pirelli tyres in the Kingdom.



ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: No to Peres

ISRAEL'S PRIME Minister Shimon Peres made a statement on Thursday reaffirming Tel Aviv's determination to seek separate peace treaties with its Arab neighbours rather than conclude a comprehensive peace settlement.

In his statement, Peres did not even refer to the U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 which the Arabs seek to implement because they clearly call on Israel to give up Arab territory it occupied in 1967.

Thus Israel has exposed its real intentions in the region and made it clear to all that it would never contemplate the idea of returning any part of Palestinian land to its lawful owners.

Peres's statement is totally in conflict with the Arab stand and Arab countries' concept of a comprehensive peace. What Peres wants is total capitulation by the Arabs and no peace.

His formula for reaching a settlement is totally rejected because it advocates humiliation for the Arabs and total domination of their destiny. In addition to the fact that it can never achieve peace as long as the Palestinian rights are usurped.

Al Dustour: More Jews need more land

REPORTS ABOUT the Soviet Union's possible consent to allow more Soviet Jews to emigrate to Israel are increasing every day, and though they mostly come from Israeli media, they could be serious.

The Israelis and their American allies are gearing up for a bargaining position on this issue during the coming U.S.-Soviet summit where the Middle East question is bound to come up for discussion by the heads of the two superpowers.

We have always called for the need to include the Soviet Union in any talks for peace in our region, but we warn of such Zionist blackmail and its consequences. Any emigration of Soviet Jews to Israel is seen by the Arabs as a backing for the Zionist movement's objectives and the immigrants would no doubt enhance Israel's manpower capability in its war with the Arabs.

We hope that reports about the emigration affair are totally groundless since the arrival of new immigrants constitutes tantamount to open aggression on the Arabs and their rights and a consecration of Israeli occupation of Palestinian land.

Sawt Al Shaab: A show of democracy

A NEW session of parliament is due to open Saturday with a speech to the nation by His Majesty King Hussein. For Jordan, parliament is not only a constitutional procedure but is a tradition and a show of democracy in the country.

In his speech, the King lays the ground for the work of the legislative, judicial and executive authorities in the Kingdom and the three authorities will conform to the directives and the royal wishes.

Parliamentary life in Jordan has existed since the 1920s and through deliberations within this institution the country has been able to preserve national unity and end all forms of past confusions.

The three authorities present a bright image of this country before the world and the rules and laws that are enacted by parliament and their implementation reflect the country's determination to maintain the principles and traditions of our ancestors and their great ideas.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: New U.S. envoy

THE UNITED States administration seems to be adamantly intent on advocating direct Arab-Israeli negotiations which, it claims, will give impetus to the peace process in the Middle East. It has charged its consul general in Jerusalem to embark on a shuttle diplomacy to achieve that goal.

This move gives further evidence that the United States rejects the idea of an international conference on the Middle East which Jordan has been calling for in implementation of the Fez Arab resolutions and in line with the United Nations decisions.

In appointing a new envoy to tour Arab capitals, the United States believes that it is promoting efforts for reaching a settlement, but this envoy will be going round in a vicious circle without achieving any progress towards these negotiations.

With this step, Washington believes that it has now placed the ball in the Arab court and that the Arabs should take a step towards achieving peace through direct negotiations with Israel which continues to occupy Arab lands in Palestine.

The appointment of the new envoy is a clear American attempt to absolve Washington from any responsibility and will, therefore, weaken the peace process altogether. The envoys which visit the region trying to reestablish U.S. credibility will not be able to achieve any positive results as long as the U.S. is totally and blindly biased towards Israel.

Al Dustour: Economic resolutions

ON HIS address to the opening session of the Arab Organisation for Industrial Development conference in Amman, Crown Prince Hassan referred to the Arab summit resolutions adopted by Arab leaders in Amman in 1980.

The Prince said that those resolutions have laid down the foundation for a strong integrated Arab economy and for expanding scopes of inter-Arab cooperation.

Though the resolutions have not been implemented, Jordan has pursued contacts with other Arab countries and specialised organisations and the Arab Common Market members to promote cooperation among Arab states in economic and trade fields and to remove all restrictions that impede such cooperation.

In his speech, Prince Hassan reaffirmed Jordan's deep faith in joint Arab action and in building a strong Arab economic structure. He also urged Arab states to give due attention to the development of their industrial sectors and help the Palestinian people under Israeli rule to enhance their steadfastness in the face of arbitrary measures.

Iraq-Iran war to overshadow summit meeting of Gulf leaders

By Stephen Fidler
Rusier

MUSCAT — Leaders of six Gulf Arab states start a summit meeting here on Sunday, their dominant concern still a war which has raged on their doorstep for five years and shows no sign of abating.

The start of the Iran-Iraq war in September 1980 together with the Soviet move into Afghanistan the previous year provided the stimulus for the six states to join in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), created by a summit in May 1981.

Five summits later the war still poses the greatest threat to the stability of the Gulf states, which own huge oil resources but whose populations are dwarfed by Iraq's 12 million and Iran's 48 million people.

Opening a meeting of foreign ministers of the six this week to prepare for the summit, Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Youssef Bin Alawi said the war "has now developed to a very

critical stage which threatens the interests of our states, which are not parties to the conflict."

The countries comprising the GCC — Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) — have to varying degrees supported Iraq in its war with non-Arab Iran.

But there were signs at the foreign ministers' meeting which may herald a more even approach to the warring parties.

The meeting was not followed by the usual criticism of Iran's refusal to enter peace talks. Indeed, Alawi told a news conference last Tuesday night: "Our objective is to solve the problems we have with Iran in our common interests."

The countries, especially Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, have provided an estimated \$30 to \$40 billion in financial support for Iraq.

The Saudis and Kuwaitis have sold oil on behalf of Baghdad, whose own ability to export oil has been severely restricted by the conflict.

Now however, Iraq is gradually

stepping up output with the help of new pipelines, one of which has already been opened across Saudi Arabia. Oil industry sources in the Gulf expect the kingdom and Kuwait to stop pumping oil for Iraq when the current agreement expires, probably early next year.

Since the surprise visit in May by Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal to Tehran, visits by Iranian envoys to the Gulf states have become more frequent and Iranian public pronouncements have been less critical of the six states.

The forthcoming summit is the largest conference ever held in Oman, which only 15 years ago began to emerge into the modern world when Sultan Ja'ab bin Said took over after the overthrow of his isolationist father in a palace coup. The government has spared no effort in ensuring an impressive event.

The 30 kilometres of highway between the airport and the 230-million-dollar seafront hotel and conference centre especially built for the heads of state are

bedecked with millions of coloured light bulbs.

Demolition and construction work costing hundreds of millions of dollars has been carried out in the capital area.

Hundreds of journalists and television crews are expected, and construction of a luxury 40-million-dollar hotel was brought forward to house newsmen. Airport security procedures are in force there: Bags are checked when entering and leaving the hotel, and nobody gets in without official identification.

Bars in hotels housing conference delegates have been told to stop serving alcohol.

The money spent around the capital has brought a boom to Muscat, underlining the differences in outlook between Oman and its neighbours, which are all suffering economically from the weakness of the world oil market.

Unlike its GCC partners, Oman faces the Indian Ocean and its main ports are outside the Gulf, in which the war threatens oil tan-

kers. Save for Bahrain, whose oil output is small and declining, Oman is the only council state outside the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

These two factors have allowed the sultanate, which started its oil-financed development later than its neighbours, to find ready buyers for its flexibly-priced oil, and it has been able to expand output as world prices have declined.

Economic issues such as Gulf states' relations with Europe, where they hope to secure markets for their growing petrochemicals industry, will be high on the summit agenda.

The heads of state will also be talking about defence and security cooperation.

Abdullah Bishara, GCC secretary-general, told a news conference last Tuesday night that the level of cooperation achieved among the states over the last four-and-a-half years had exceeded early expectations.

But, while much including their

Islamic heritage unites the states, there are also differences.

Speaking to the Gulf News Agency on Tuesday, Saudi Arabia's Prince Saud said the views of the foreign ministers were not identical on every subject, although they were similar.

Oman's Alawi commented: "Reservations, if they exist, are not fundamental... practical solutions could still be achieved for them."

Kuwait, for example, has had reservations about a security agreement that would have allowed the hot pursuit of suspects into a neighbouring country's territory and the clause appears to have been dropped.

Oman is also said to be concerned about the implications of a joint GCC rapid deployment force, known as Peninsula Shield, almost two brigades in strength and based in the military city of Hafar Al Batin in northeast Saudi Arabia.

But Alawi said: "Every member state is participating (in the force) according to its potential."

A dangerous celebration of American unilateralism

By Richard J. Barnett

WASHINGTON — "We did this all by our little selves," said President Reagan as he announced proudly that U.S. Navy fighters had forced an Egyptian plane to land in Italy without prior consultation with either country. In the administration's view, the widespread American applause for this use of military force against an ally and major aid recipient plainly outweighed the cost in injured relationships with Italy and Egypt. Indeed, the action was a classic example of the administration's unilateral approach to world affairs.

No administration since the war has celebrated unilateralism as this one has. In national security, economic policy and diplomacy, Washington prefers to advance U.S. interests through its own initiatives and power rather than the mechanisms of international cooperation.

Upon taking office, the administration withdrew from the Law of the Sea Treaty. It has consistently denounced the United Nations and refused to be bound by judgments of the World Court. It has pursued economic recovery through deficit spending, high interest rates and an overvalued dollar, thus sucking up needed capital from Europe and the Third World without regard to the devastating effects of these policies on other countries.

In Soviet-American relations, the United States has signaled its

intention to dash rather than build a relationship based on mutual interest. In Washington's view, the Soviet adversary is to be managed by steadily increasing the threat to it. Indeed, the administration appears to deny that Americans have any interest in common with "the evil empire."

The approach to negotiation has been grudging. The administration has, for example, cut off negotiations on the nearly

completed Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty. Washington evidently prefers to rely on its technological edge and economic power.

The administration would rather wage a "covert" war against Nicaragua than support Latin American efforts to negotiate the conflict. In Afghanistan, the administration supports the "freedom fighters" resisting the Soviet Army and barely gives lip service

to the efforts of the European allies and others to settle the conflict through negotiation.

Perhaps the most dramatic symbol of unilateralism is the Strategic Defence Initiative. This imaginary technological shield is intended to prevent America's destruction by relying on its machines — rather than Moscow's self-interest — to prevent war.

Unfortunately, this reliance on unilateralism comes at the wrong

historical moment: "Rambo" nationalism has no place in a world of nuclear weapons and more than 160 countries. Even the most powerful country has lost considerable control over its own economy. The United States has never been so dependent on world trade, and more than a trillion dollars of unregulated Eurodollars are beyond the reach of the U.S. Treasury. There is the danger of a trade war reminiscent of the

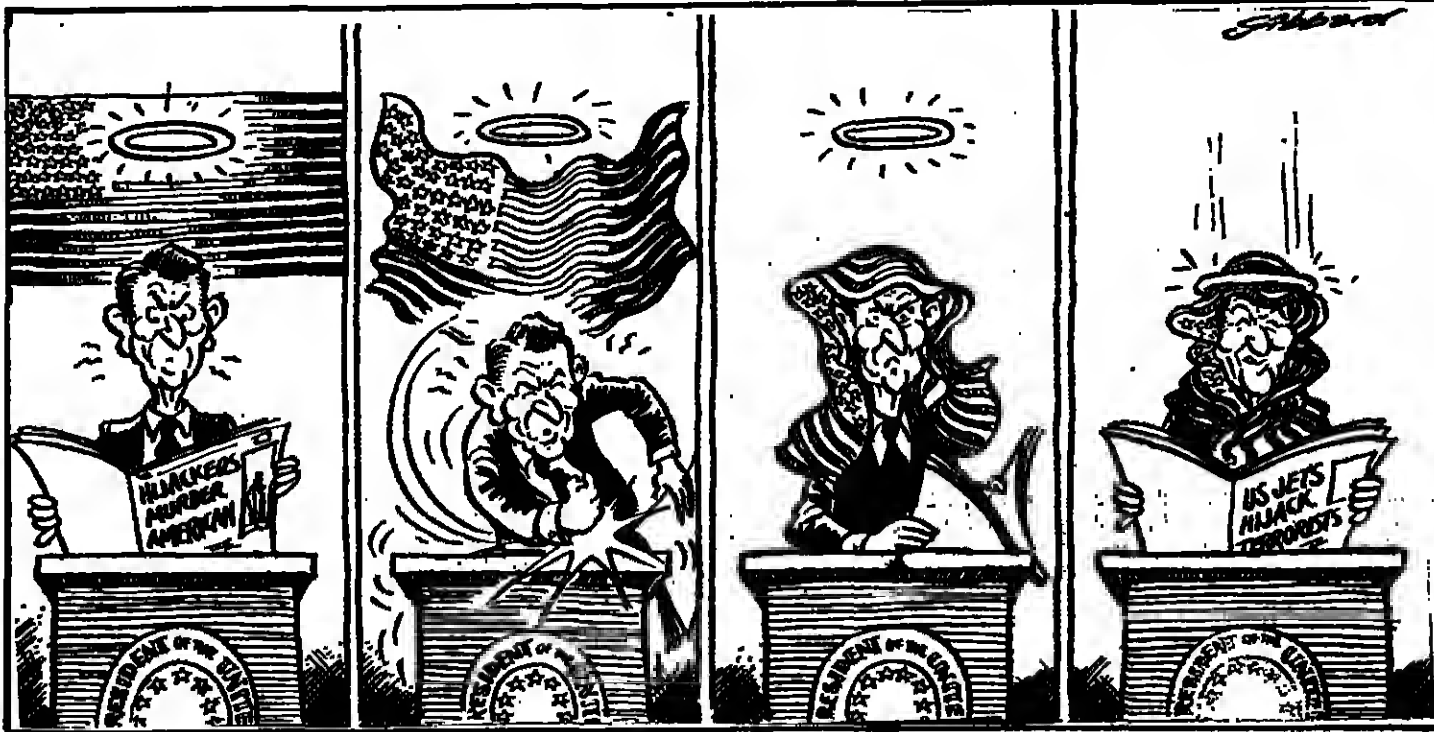
1930s. Meanwhile, the world debt crisis continues unabated, threatening the collapse of the banking system. None of these problems can be solved by the United States acting alone or laying down the law to other nations.

In the field of national security, the United States remains totally vulnerable, despite the myth of the nuclear Maginot Line in the sky. The pursuit of security through building ever more weapons has failed, as ever more weapons are in turn aimed at America, increasing the risks of war through miscalculation.

The United States is a strong nation, considerably stronger economically and militarily than any other country, including the Soviet Union. But its power to create a world environment in which Americans can be secure and prosperous is limited by the strange new world in which we live. New forms of international cooperation are badly needed; existing international institutions must be improved or replaced. No nation has as much to lose as the United States by international anarchy.

The country's national interest cannot be served by outmoded nationalism, however good the rhetoric may feel. Americans can no longer secure their most vital interests by acting alone.

The writer, senior fellow of the Institute for Policy Studies, a public policy organisation, contributed this comment to The New York Times.



S. African whites flock to Lusaka to talk to ANC

By James F. Smith
The Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — In an overt move to blacks unthinkable a year ago, white businessmen, clerics, students and politicians are defying their own government to trek to Zambia to meet with black guerrilla leaders.

Since early September, two influential groups have met with representatives of the outlawed African National Congress and two more want to do so, despite President P.W. Botha's protest that such talks are "disloyal."

Deadly rioting, a crumbling economy and the growing international sanctions movement have prompted moderate whites to start talking to the group regarded by most analysts as the leading voice of black South Africans.

The government appears determined to halt the tentative overtures toward dialogue with the ANC, which the government calls a "murder organisation." The ANC openly espouses violence as a tool in its 25-year-old struggle against apartheid, the South African system of racial separation whereby 5 million whites rule 24 million blacks.

Botha resorted to the extraordinary step last week of revoking the passports of eight white Afrikaner college students to stop

their planned visit to the ANC in Zambia. The government has seized passports of activists, but never from students from Stellenbosch University, a training ground for cabinet ministers.

"Who knows, young people left alone to debate their collective future might even find some common ground," lamented the Johannesburg Sunday Times. "even if it is only a measure of agreement that the reduction of their country into a wasteland is in the interests of nobody."

Seven clergymen from Afrikaner churches declared last Monday they also want to go to Lusaka to see the ANC.

"The gospel teaches us to love our enemies. How can you love your enemy if you don't even want to talk to him? What kind of gospel would that be?" asked the Reverend Nico Smith, a white minister in the Dutch reformed church branch for blacks.

Smith would not identify the

other six clergymen who plan to visit the ANC with him for fear of government measures to halt them.

The Johannesburg Star said Botha's "absurdly high-profile stance" against talks with the ANC was out of step with the views of most of the country's citizens, adding, "like it or not, (the ANC) is part of the solution as well as part of the problem. Nearly everybody, including significant sectors of Afrikanerdom, recognises that."

Botha will have to talk to the ANC sooner or later, and the president "is not only setting back the cause of dialogue and reconciliation. He is making things, ultimately, far more difficult for himself," the Star said.

The journeys to Zambia began Sept. 13 when Gavin Relly, head of the powerful Anglo American Corp. Mining House, led a delegation of businessmen to a remote game reserve for talks with the

ANC. Relly said afterward that "the positions are not as greatly antagonistic as some might think."

Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, leader of the opposition Progressive Federal Party in parliament, followed Relly to Zambia on Oct. 12. After nine hours of talks, Slabbert declared with the ANC that "apartheid lies at the heart of the present crisis."

Such contacts, Botha said last Tuesday, lend credibility to the ANC while it continues violent attacks in the country. "Naïve discussions with this terrorist organisation... will amount to a defiance of the state's authority."

He had said after Relly's delegation went to Zambia, "I do not know what they are going to achieve other than to show signs of weakness to the enemies of South Africa."

Botha blames the ANC not only for periodic sabotage attacks but also for stirring up the past 14

months of rioting in black townships. More than 760 people, mostly blacks, have been killed in the unrest.

The guerrillas have largely restricted their sabotage strikes to government targets and say they try to spare civilians. Nineteen people died and more than 200 were wounded in a 1983 ANC car bombing in Pretoria outside air force headquarters. Guerrilla chief Oliver Tambo has said the war will escalate and more civilians will be hurt.

The ANC, founded in 1912 and banned in 1960, is openly delighted by the overtures from white South Africans. Its leaders see the new contact with whites as recognition that the ANC "cannot be simply wished away in order to find a solution — it must participate in that solution," said Don Ngubeni, an ANC spokesman in Lusaka.

"The government is saying that

the ANC is a violent organisation, a terrorist organisation. Now, it would seem that people are no longer buying that, they would like to find out for themselves," Ngubeni said. "(Botha) wants to deny them the opportunity of finding out the truth, because he knows that what he is saying is not the truth."

That the attempts to talk to the ANC are going ahead despite Botha's objections suggests the level of anguish engendered by the rioting and the international sanctions campaign, says professor Peter Vale, director of the Institute for Social Research at Rhodes University.

"Whites have gone through all sorts of political gyrations. Less than two years ago, we went through euphoria, we were moving forward," Vale said. "From that high, whites have just plunged and dashed to a situation where they are not looking around for a new political paradigm."

"In a sense, people are saying we have actually lost the war with the ANC," he said. On the other hand, Vale added, the ANC recognises that the war will be a long one and "there is a sense in which they are also trying to signal, 'look, let's talk it out.'"

S. African unrest 'could cool if police were disciplined'

By Ruth Pitchford
Rusier

JOHANNESBURG — Black protest violence sweeping South Africa could die down if police were disciplined and the government tackled fundamental political grievances, the head of the country's Institute of Race Relations said on Sunday.

"The big question is whether the government is prepared to go half-way (to meet black demands)," John Kane-Berman told reporters, introducing the latest edition of the institute's race relations survey.

The institute, which takes a strong anti-apartheid line, is an independent body funded mainly

by liberal businessmen. Its research is respected as thorough and impartial.

In its 1984 survey published Sunday, it analyses the roots of conflict in townships zoned for non-whites fought bitterly with police and with each other for 10 months.

"If the police can be disciplined and made to behave in a much more sensitive manner towards black political protest, I would expect the townships to cool down," Kane-Berman said.

"There would be greater willingness by the black political organisations to enter discussions on fundamental political issues."

But he asked: "Will the talks get underway in time to avoid a new

cycle of violence?"

The race relations survey says that about 175 people died between February and the end of December 1984. Reuters estimates that 600 more have died in escalating violence so far this year.

The survey says the underlying causes of the unrest are "continuing dissatisfaction with African (black) education, anger at the exclusion of Africans from political power, and the persistence of high inflation and deepening unemployment."

Rioting in 1976 claimed 575 lives. But this time, Kane-Berman said, "the anger is very much greater and the bitter hatred of black people at apartheid (race sep-

aration) is very much deeper."

Black people had begun attacking councillors and others identified as collaborators with white minority rule and this killing of "sellouts" was a major change for the worse in black political thinking, he said.

Violence has flared in previously quiet Cape Town in the past three months, and Kane-Berman blamed this largely on lack of police discipline in handling protests there. "You then get a spiralling upwards of violence on both sides."

Kane-Berman detected two hopeful signs amid the conflict. "Business leaders had begun a serious push for change, while

"the government's limited, patchy process of reform has not really been retarded or stopped either by international attacks or by the level of violence in the country."

He said, however, that government moves to date were "hugely inadequate in relation to black political demands."

The institute's survey showed up bitter black frustration at being excluded from a new constitution which gave people classified as coloured (mixed-race) and Indian a junior role in the white-dominated parliament, Kane-Berman said.

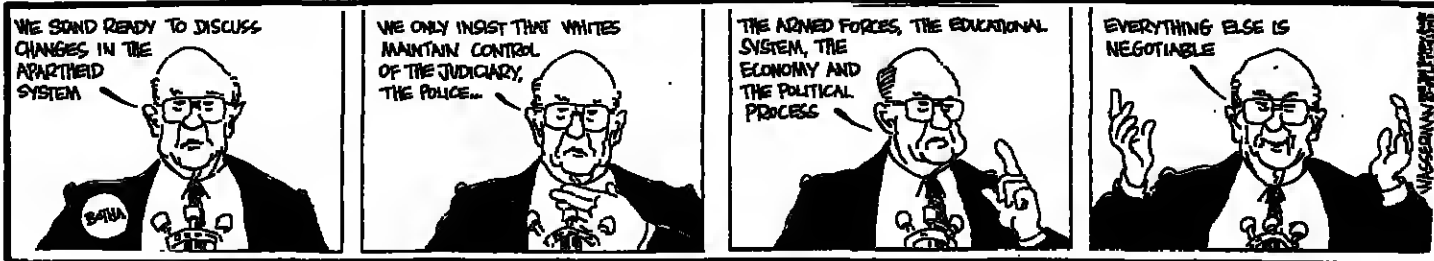
Another factor behind the violence was the deep anger of black schoolchildren at the gov-

ernment's failure to equalise educational standards to any meaningful extent, he said.

The survey said that apart from the unrest, there were 58 guerrilla sabotage attacks in South Africa in 1984.

The number of people detained without trial was 1,129, the highest since the clampdown after the 1976 riots.

But the figure has already been far outstripped in 1985. Detentions under emergency laws clamped on the eastern Cape and Johannesburg in July total over 4,300, police say, and many more have been detained under security laws.



Channel 6 preview

Varied fare from JTV

By J.H. Boteler

BEFORE I tackle the subject of the week's viewing, I feel I must single out for praise two items of recent Channel 6 programme production that deserve special mention. The first is the fairly new innovation on "News at ten". Its revamped presentation, giving a brief bulletin of the main items featured in the programme, followed by detailed reports is very welcome and, apart from giving the viewer an instant and easy guide to the day's events, also helps give the programme a focal centre and a more organised and comprehensive pattern, something which in the past has, at times, been lacking. The second item for praise, and I must admit that I have been very tardy in giving it, is the admirable series of advertisements for Jordan's sights of historical and cultural interest. I am uncertain whether they are produced by JTV themselves or by the Ministry of Tourism, but they are perfect models of how to advertise a product effectively and simply, without a lot of overblown, hysterical and self-congratulatory hype. Consisting solely of lingering camera shots, with "soft" edges, backed by a stirring soundtrack, they serve as a model to many an advertising agency from England and America, who on the whole have considerable more funds at their disposal. (They also serve as a welcome palliative to the large number of perfume and jewelry advertisers, mostly foreign-made and presumably aimed at the Christmas market, with which we are about to be deluged. Would your wife or girlfriend thank you for giving her a bottle marked "Poison"? So, once again, congratulations. Now, down to business.

Comedies

At the moment I am experimenting with certain different formats; your comments would be useful. Since the evening's entertainment usually starts with a comedy, I may as well follow suit. So, first up is "It's Your Move", (tonight), Matthew Barton must surely be one of the most odious spongers ever to grace, (if that is the right word), the family home. But, working on the premise that most children show a certain degree of restraint within that home, reserving their more anarchistic tendencies for when they are free of the stern parental eye, tonight should see young Matt display his true colours. It's exam time, and this aspiring Al Capone attempts to get advance knowledge of the questions from his teachers. I bet he succeeds, at that. "Chance In A Million" is altogether a more civilised offering. Not the least commendable aspect of it is its attempt, in its likeable and endearing hero, to break away from the "proletarian bias" for want of a better phrase, of English comedy of the last decade or so. Tom, in his clothes and especially his speech-patterns, is an intellectual, almost a "nob". Unfortunately, he is also fate's chosen enemy. This week he escorts Alison's young cousin Thomas to a Cliff Richard

concert, (another instance of the high and noble intent of this programme!), and various disasters ensue. Monday's "Three Up, Two Down" is developing nicely. Most commendable is the way that this programme, behind the laughter, displays an uncanny and at times disquieting perception of the petty cruelties and prejudices evinced between different class strata in England. While Daphne is more the villain of the piece, it can be discerned that she is frustrated and unsure of herself. Also Sam does himself no good by childishly indulging in her little games of one-upmanship. It is a pity that the parts of Nick and Angie are not stronger, but it is also reassuring to note that the baby has so far been restricted to one ten-second appearance. Not that I have anything against babies, far from it, but rather that I doubt whether a hot and noisy studio is the ideal place to begin life.

Otherwise, the week's comedy seems to revolve around the perennial struggle of job satisfaction versus "getting ahead". In the "Lucky Amaze Show", (Tuesday), the heroine is faced with the dilemma of upsetting Larry, who expects her to broadcast some of his truly execrable songs, while in "Three's Company", (Wednesday), Janet is being harassed by her employer; Jack to the rescue again. Thursday's "Emergency Room" has Dr. Shimefeld having to decide between continuing to serve humanity by working at the hospital, or serving himself by making big bucks elsewhere. On Friday "Sara" gets a visit from her mother, and has to defend her chosen life-style against attempts at match-making.

Documentaries

"Automania", (tonight), this week takes as its subject "Car V. People". Its main focus is the effect, often detrimental, the motor-car industry has had on the Third World. Concentrating largely on India and Brazil, the programme comes up with some disturbing conclusions. In Brazil, the oil-crisis of the seventies was temporarily solved by diluting oil with alcohol derived from sugar-cane. The one product that Brazil had in abundance. Now, this substitute makes up a quarter of all petrol used in the country. Unfortunately this means that land which could be used to feed people is now used to feed cars, and goods have to be purchased from abroad. Before moving on, I must mention last week's episode, and the way it demonstrated the ingenuity of American advertising of the thirties: the sequence of eggs hatching out hundreds of baby Model-T Fords will live in the memory for a long time. Sunday's "Way of The Warrior" this week looks at "Eskrima" — The Filipino Way". Eskrima is the martial art of the Philippines, and is a fast, spectacular and effective fighting system. It involves the use of sticks, knives and swords and includes a comprehensive unarmed defence system. Based on Chinese and Indian systems, it was undoubtedly influenced by the

17th and 18th century European fencing techniques introduced to the Philippines by Spanish colonists. Apart from several memorable quotes, (two weeks ago smiling Jim Elke happily explained his fighting philosophy as "First I paralyse the arm, then I break the wrist, then I dislocate the shoulder", and last week Master Hung stated in a deadpan fashion: "Get your opponent off balance, knock him over, and hit him where it hurts"), this programme also provides a remarkable exposition of oriental culture and mythology. Master Hung, star of last week's programme, seems to be expert at every possible form of martial art. (Interestingly enough, though, he was the only person not wearing a belt, black or otherwise, though I don't suppose anyone is prepared to take issue with him over this. It was explained, apropos of Master Hung, that when Tai Chi attains its highest form, the master is indistinguishable, in his movements, from the beginner, thus uncannily mirroring the Buddhist belief in the circle of life, or becoming.)

Monday night has the second and concluding part of the "Benjamin Franklin" special. (Ahem, yes, not Thomas Jefferson, as I erroneously reported last week. Sorry, I do seem to remember a little piece explaining how errors occur in this newspaper, but in this instance I can point the finger at nobody save myself. So, apart from that I myself found small comfort in his advice: "England is no place to be when poor Home is better." Rather a case of damned if I do, and damned if I don't! "Connections" on Wednesday is now into its second week. Please don't blame me. It does seem a pity that, after delaying showing this series for several weeks, once the technical problems had been resolved JTV could not wait one more week to show it. The scheduled study of wolves in Alaska promised to be quite entertaining; ah, well, perhaps another day. Anyway, water under the bridge and all that, so this week we can settle down to the "Wheel Of Fortune". Presumably this is about the invention that some claim was the greatest impetus to the growth of civilisation after the discovery of fire. We shall see.

Saturday
8.30 It's Your Move
9.00 Automania
9.30 varieties
10.20 Mini-series: Dempsey (Part One).

Sunday
8.30 Chance In A Million
9.10 Way of The Warrior
10.20 Mini-Series: Dempsey (Conclusion)

Monday
8.30 Three Up, Two Down
9.10 Bergerac
10.20 Special: Benjamin Franklin (Conclusion)

Tuesday
8.30 Lucky Amaze Show
9.10 Bleak House
10.20 Feature film: Lazy Ace.

Wednesday
8.30 Three's Company
9.10 Connections
10.20 Remington Steele

Thursday
8.30 Emergency Room
9.10 Scene of Crime
9.30 Varieties
10.20 Feature Film: Evil Under the Sun

Friday
8.30 Sara
9.10 Missing From Home (New series)
10.20 Magnum



I am the ghost of follies past. Bleak House, Tuesday, 9.10

lighting, and attempt to persuade the English government of the justice of the American grievances. Failing this, he has to help organise a revolution. I have to admit though that I myself found small comfort in his advice: "England is no place to be when poor Home is better." Rather a case of damned if I do, and damned if I don't! "Connections" on Wednesday is now into its second week. Please don't blame me. It does seem a pity that, after delaying showing this series for several weeks, once the technical problems had been resolved JTV could not wait one more week to show it. The scheduled study of wolves in Alaska promised to be quite entertaining; ah, well, perhaps another day. Anyway, water under the bridge and all that, so this week we can settle down to the "Wheel Of Fortune". Presumably this is about the invention that some claim was the greatest impetus to the growth of civilisation after the discovery of fire. We shall see.

Drama and detectives

"Bleak House" on Tuesday, continues to enthrall and horrify in equal degrees. Poor Jo the crossing-sweeper is dead, and Esther is now blind, which can be described as a blessing in a small way, since she is spared the sight of the terrible ravages that smallpox has inflicted on her face. Meanwhile, Lady Dedlock begins to feel the pressure from the odious Tulkingtons. The interwoven fates of Jo and Esther are a prime example of the central theme of Dickens' message in this tale: That the sins and abuses of the rich and powerful are visited upon the wholly innocent. It is an evil which, like the fog and the mud, pervades everything, and the lives of all. "Missing From Home" is a new, six-part drama series for Friday nights, and hopefully should fill the void left by the excellent

"Love and Marriage" series satisfactorily. It concerns itself with a trend that is all too common in the West: the inexplicable disappearance of a loved one. While this problem is disturbingly prevalent among children (and we are talking here about voluntary absence, not forcible abduction), this series takes as its theme the disappearance of the husband. Alison Reynolds' day begins much as usual. Her husband leaves for work, her son Barry goes to school, while she and her best friend Hilary spend the day together. That evening Jerry is late home from work and Alison has an unexpected visit from Inspector Marsden of Scotland Yard. Startling revelations will follow in future episodes.

As far as detective shows go, "Scene of Crime", (Thursday), is fairly innocuous and undemanding, whilst "Remington Steele", (Wednesday, episode: "Steel Your Heart Away") and "Magnum" (Friday), are harmless fun, if safe and predictable. What does stand out is "Bergerac" on Mondays. Apart from anything else, it is enriched by a steady stream of excellent stage actors. Last week's virtuoso performance by Ian Hendry as the semi-alcoholic and embattled pulp-writer with a fixation was stunning. Also admirable in this low-key series is its realism. Take, for example, its treatment of the relationship between Jim and Francine. Jim may be cuddly and on the side of right, but he has a fair hit to learn about give-and-take. He will insist on collaring Francine at the tourist office, or hustling in on portrait sessions, (and smearing her very expensive oil-paint tubes over the floor). "I do have my own life to lead, you know," she complains, and Jim would be well-advised to learn this. This week he has to track down a top-level civil servant who is attempting to def-

ect to Moscow; the KGB want to liquidate her. (On the subject of realism it is worth referring to the clip last week when Jim was standing on a bridge over the Thames, while double-decker buses passed busily to-and-fro. I know the bridge — Chelsea Bridge — very well, and can assure you that that particular clip must have exhausted a whole hour's worth of the bus route in question!)

Mini-series and feature films

This weekend's mini-series is entitled simply "Dempsey", and stars Treat Williams, Sally Kellerman, Sam Waterston and Victoria Tennant. It is the story of Jack Dempsey, for seven years the boxing heavyweight champion of the world during the 1920s. From humble beginnings on the family farm he fought his way to fame, riches and stardom. He also found his way into the company of mobsters and showgirls, hangers on and unscrupulous "friends", and like so many others, ended his life destitute.

Tuesday's feature film is called "Lazy Ace", and apparently is about a big-time poker winner who then has to protect his fortune and his life from certain jealous and unscrupulous elements. Thursday's offering is "Evil Under the Sun", another in the excellent series of Agatha Christie films produced in recent years by John Brabourne and Richard Goodwin. [Other titles include "Murder On The Orient Express" and "Death On The Nile"]. Punctilious attention to detail, tongue-in-cheek humour, red herrings galore, and an all-star cast. This time around: A member (or two), amongst a rich and indolent house-party on an island paradise gets done in. Whodunnit? If nothing else, it should put "Scene of Crime," from earlier in the evening, firmly in the shade.

Cedars of Lebanon face threat of extinction

By Diana Abdallah

Reuter

BESHARRE, Lebanon — The Cedars of Lebanon, which have survived from Biblical times to become the national symbol of this troubled land, are in danger of extinction.

Branches are beginning to wither on some of the 400 trees which form the largest remaining grove of cedars in Lebanon.

"It is a bad omen," said an old man living in the shadow of the cedars near this northern mountain town. "It might mean the end of the world is nearing."

The grove, believed by local inhabitants to be at least 2,000 years old, is a virtually a sacred shrine to the Lebanese, who call the stately trees the "cedars of God."

But it is now under threat from the humble worm. This year, environmentalists discovered that tiny *thaumetopoea libanotica* worms were laying eggs in the roots and branches of the magnificent evergreens, causing some to yellow and die.

"If they go, the last symbol of Lebanon will die," said a woman who runs a small cafe beneath the oldest tree.

"The cedars of God look like an old man's hair turning white," the old man added. "This is God's curse on us Lebanese."

Environmental researchers George Tomeh and his wife Henriette raised the alarm in August after white spots on the trunks of some of the cedars led to detection of the worms.

"We raise our voice to the world to help the cedars and avert a catastrophe," said Tomeh, who heads the Lebanese University in Beirut where his wife is a professor.

They also say some trees in the grove are thousands of years old, but cannot be precise. "The cedars look tired," observed Mrs. Tomeh.

Ironically, she explained, the grove's popularity among Lebanese who come to picnic, barbecue and dance under the trees is causing the problem.

"People stepping on the grass under them over the years eliminated an insect that in the natural process gets rid of the deadly worms," she said. "The natural process was disrupted and the roots are now exposed with no soil to protect them."

Troops now guard the trees from the public. "We have orders from the Defence Ministry to

block entry to the cedars," said a captain commanding a post at the entrance.

"Agriculture Ministry experts are studying the disease," he added as he escorted a Reuter correspondent into the grove where dead branches had been lopped from trees in a bid to stop the scourge spreading.

Wahib Kayrouz, a member of Besharre's "friends of the Cedars" Committee set up to protect the trees, said experts had recommended spraying to kill the worms "or the cedars would become a forest of wood, rather than a forest of evergreens."

The Tomehs, however, insist: "The worm is waxy. It will not be killed by chemicals."

Mentioned in the Bible, the cedars once spread in forests over the mountains of Lebanon long before the birth of Christ. Local legend says the cross on which Christ was crucified was made partly from the cedars.

The timber was used by the Hebrews to build the temple of Solomon. Assyrians, Persians, Phoenicians and Romans stripped the forests for their sailing fleets. Now the mountains of Lebanon are mostly bare.

Tomeh estimates some 3,000 smaller and younger cedars survive in good health in other parts of Lebanon.

Kayrouz is angry at the government for letting tourists and shepherds over the years invade the grove, which stands at the foot of a magnificent ring of mountain peaks in one of the most beautiful spots in Lebanon.

"They would burn fires, get drunk and start shooting at the trunks, and the cattle would eat all the grass and the small trees that were still growing," he said.

A visit to the grove has long been a treat for foreign dignitaries, who sign a guest book of an old stone chapel nestled in the heart of the grove.

"I remember Charles de Gaulle, the French General, when he was here in the 1940s," said the old man proudly. "Kurt Waldheim [former U.N. Secretary-General] said he felt he was near God when he saw the cedars."

Lebanon's 10-year-old civil war is not making the fight to save the cedars any easier. Foreign environmentalists have offered to help, said Mrs. Tomeh, "but how can you tell them to come to a place where the war means you never know when you can leave your house?"

Geneva braces for November Summit

By Stephen Weeks

Reuter

GENEVA — The Swiss have called out the army to help protect U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev during their summit here next month.

Some 2,000 soldiers will be deployed in this lakeside city to ensure the visit of the superpower leaders passes without terrorist attack or assassination attempt.

The troops will concentrate on a five-mile stretch of Lake Geneva's north shore where most summit activity will take place, including the leaders' lodgings, numerous social events and the sites for the formal talks on November 19-20.

The 10th infantry regiment from the German-speaking Argau and Solothurn regions has been called up as has the 3/18 tank company from the French-speaking Valais region.

A detachment of helicopters and aircraft will guard the skies and Geneva airspace will be off-limits to all but regular commercial flights, blocking any chance of aerial photographs for the 2,000 journalists expected to cover the event.

"We don't expect any problems," Geneva Protocol chief Robert Vieux told Reuters while discussing details, "but we're not taking any chances."

The Swiss Federal Council has called on all the country's administrative regions to send some 450 extra officers to reinforce the 1,000-strong Geneva police force, which has the primary responsibility for the leaders' safety.

Reagan was shot and wounded in an assassination attempt early in his presidency, a constant reminder of the danger he faces.

Security concerns intensified following the American mid-air interception and capture of four Palestinians accused of hijacking the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro this month.

Official sources said Geneva security forces have stopped Reagan and his wife Nancy from staying at their preferred spot — the opulent south shore Bellevue Mansion of their personal friend Prince Sadruddin Aga Khan.

The location would have meant cross-town trips over the single bridge spanning the Rhone River at the end of Lake Geneva, or a potentially dangerous helicopter flight.

After an intense search by

White House advance teams, the Reagans decided on the Maison de Saussure, a lakeside chateau where President Dwight Eisenhower stayed during a summit with Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev in 1955, the sources said.

The two-storey 18th-century building is located about five kilometres east of Geneva overlooking a small, romantic port, Creux de Genethou.

No official announcement has been made but police have set up a 24-hour-a-day watch and the few local residents speak openly about the impending presidential stay.

The sources said the location provided the intimate setting the Reagans wanted as well as a large and tranquil garden overlooking the lake.

Gorbachev and his wife Raisa will stay in Geneva on the grounds of the Soviet mission to the United Nations European headquarters. The second day of the summit will be held at the mission.

The first day, hosted by the Americans, will be at the Fleur d'Eau, a lakeside chateau slightly further east than the Reagan residence, the sources said. Police are on guard already and workmen can be seen preparing the grounds.

Perhaps most troublesome for the security forces and protocol chief Vieux will be the thousands of reporters, photographers, radio and television crews and accompanying technicians.

Vieux estimated that 10,000 people would be involved in some way in preparing for or catering to the two leaders, who are holding the first U.S.-Soviet summit since Jimmy Carter and Leonid Brezhnev met in 1979 in Vienna.

Geneva specialises in international conferences and plays host for some 30,000 meetings a year but the summit has strained even this city's vast resources.

Space for news organisations has become so scarce that Japanese television will set up headquarters on a boat moored at the downtown marina, Vieux said.

The summit operation will cost Switzerland about two million Swiss francs (\$1 million), or 35 centimes (16 cents) for each of the country's roughly six million inhabitants.

Newspapers have printed cartoons suggesting some of the money will be recovered through traffic tickets in a city which already suffers from acute parking problems.

New fields for Czech superfarm

By David Storey

Reuter

SLUSOVICE, Czechoslovakia — A racecourse and a computer factory are not the normal facilities of a farm, particularly in the rigid, state-owned realm of Eastern Europe.

But thanks to innovative and vigorous management, the Slusovice Farming Cooperative, tucked into the woods and hills of Eastern Moravia, has both, and more besides.

The cooperative has shown boldness rare in Czechoslovakia, symbolising the anti-bureaucratic endeavour encouraged in Eastern Europe by Moscow since the takeover of Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin.

Although some of its flamboyant aspects may have been hard to swallow for the more doctrinaire elements of Prague's Communist administration, the cooperative's success has ensured its recognition.

Slusovice's fame has spread at home and abroad. In a record, a popular Czech folk-singing duo jokingly asked if there were any limits to the farm's achievements — suggesting it was already surveying the moon for suitable new land.

Managers of the cooperative, an amalgam of 17 villages and their once privately owned land, reel off the success figures of their show farm without notes.

They have told the story proudly to 35,000 visitors in the last year from home and abroad, including a top adviser to Gorbachev who toured Eastern Europe to

look at reform ideas.

Income per hectare is three times the national average for such terrain. Grain yields last year were 6.7 tonnes per hectare compared with the national average of 4.4 tonnes.

Output in 1985 will be over 2.7 billion crowns (\$240 million), about 60 per cent up on 1983, according to management figures.

Agriculture has been one of the brighter sides of the country's post-war development, with record grain harvests after recent years of intensive chemical fertilizing.

The government has gradually eased its rigid system of agricultural production directives — from January 1 only grain and meat production will be affected — and has begun to relax controls on foreign trading.

Slusovice, an unusually big farm by Western standards with 5,500 hectares and over 3,000 employees, has pioneered incentive-based management, with wide pay differentials, and demotions for those not producing new ideas and solid leadership.

But for Frantisek Cnba, cooperative chairman for 21 years, this was not enough. He detected areas where technology was revolutionising agriculture elsewhere and brought the ideas to Moravia.

This month a plane arrived from Canada carrying 100 Holstein cows with good milk yields for inter-breeding and boosting the already high output of Slusovice's 1,800 cows.

Slusovice has its own factories making insecticides, farm machinery and computers designed to help farm administration.

British holiday firms start price war

By Alan Elsner

Reuter

LONDON — British tour operators have started a price war with big companies offering week-long overseas holiday in the sun for around 30 sterling (\$43).

With the two biggest companies, Thomson's Holidays and Intasun, vying over the cheapest package to Spain, Greece, Italy and Malta, holiday industry chiefs expressed concern that many smaller firms would be forced out of business.

"The cost is at best massively reduced profits across the trade as a whole...at the worst, massive blood-letting and deficit trading," said Eric Sutherland, president of the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA).

"We must hope that companies find a way to survive the deliberate threat to their existence from the giants," he said.

But Harry Goodman, chairman of the International Leisure Group, which owns Intasun, said it would be a good thing if up to 100 British tour operators were squeezed out in the next year.

"There will be blood-letting but there should be blood-letting. We manufacture holidays and the number of manufacturers at 659 is high," he said.

The big companies began slashing prices last month but the price war reached a climax last week as agents gathered for an ABTA convention in the Italian resort of Sorrento.

First, Intasun offered 500 Spanish self-catering holidays at 32 sterling (\$46) a week only to have Thomson's respond almost within the hour with 500 holidays in Spain, Malta or Greece for 25 sterling.

Both firms acknowledged that the offers were publicity gimmicks covering only a tiny fraction of the three million cut-price packages they expect to sell for next summer.

Thomson's has already slashed all holiday prices by an average of 17 per cent, forcing its rivals to follow suit.

"They have taken a gigantic gamble, not only with their own business but with the whole industry," said Terry Grew, head of British Airways holidays division.

The giants argue that the price war has galvanised the market, with bookings far above last year's levels.

"In a month, we have already sold 450,000 holidays worth 100 million sterling (\$144 million), more than ever before at this time of the year," said Charles Newbold of Thomson's.

Intasun said its bookings were seven times higher than at the same time last year.

Thomson's has already slashed all holiday prices by an average of 17 per cent, forcing its rivals to follow suit.



SURPRISE: Viewers of the popular TV series called Benson are in for a surprise. Now entering its sixth year, the successful American show takes on an astounding new pattern as Benson, the governor's butler, runs for high office and then finds himself elected

lieutenant governor. Benson even appoints irksome Gretchen Krans as his aide. Actor Robert Guillaume (centre) is seen here in the role of Benson finding himself elected to the new post.

Kasparov agrees to draw despite winning position

MOSCOW (R) — Challenger Garry Kasparov Friday stunned spectators and experts by agreeing to a draw after playing just three further moves in the 21st game of his world title chess rematch against reigning champion Anatoly Karpov.

The draw leaves Kasparov ahead 11½ to 9½ in the 24-game series, meaning that he has only to win one or draw two of the three remaining games to take the world crown.

However, experts had almost unanimously pronounced overnight that the game was as good lost for Karpov, and sources close to the champion's delegation con-

fessed they thought the situation almost hopeless.

Kasparov made a strange pawn advance just after the game, which was adjourned Thursday night, resumed. This allowed Kasparov to activate his pieces and achieve counterplay against white's pawns.

When the players suddenly stopped and shook hands on move 44

of the game, grandmaster Mark Taimanov, astonished, questioned Josif Dorfman, one of Kasparov's chief seconds in the analysis room. Dorfman merely raised his eyebrows and said "very interesting" before leaving the hall.

Grandmaster Yuri Averbakh said he was baffled by the draw. "I cannot explain it," he told Reuters.

He said the only possible theory was that Kasparov and his team had discovered considerable technical difficulties in trying for a win and decided it would be preferable to concentrate on the next game a safe half-point closer to the title.

United faces little trouble

LONDON (R) — All-conquering Manchester United could face a makeshift Coventry side at Old Trafford Saturday when they bid to extend their unbeaten start to the English first division soccer season to 15 games.

United have amassed 38 points out of a maximum 42 and a weakened Coventry should pose little threat to the league leaders' 10-point lead over Liverpool.

Twin-strikers Terry Gibson and Cyrille Regis are Coventry's most serious injury doubts, but mid-fielders Trevor Peake and Dave Bowman are also struggling to be fit in time to play.

United's injury list is even longer, but such is the strength in the

depth at Old Trafford that Ron Atkinson can still field a powerful line-up despite the absence of Bryan Robson, Remi Moses, Gordon Strachan — his entire first choice midfield — John Gidman and Mike Duxbury.

The loss of Gidman and former England international Duxbury means a recall for local-born Billy Gannon, who made the last of his three first-team appearances over 12 months ago, at right back.

United's near-neighbours Manchester City, who meet Arsenal for the second time in four days, will be without key midfielder Graham Baker for the first division clash at Highbury.

France back in World Cup race

PARIS (R) — European champions France swung back on course for the 1986 World Cup finals in Mexico when they beat soccer's eternal whipping-boys Luxembourg 6-0 Wednesday.

France, who had failed to win in their last three Group Four outings, leapfrogged one point ahead of East Germany and Yugoslavia into second place behind Bulgaria, who have already qualified.

The result, against a side which has not won a World Cup tie since 1974, was never in doubt — but the margin of victory means a draw against Yugoslavia here on November 16 may be enough for the French if East Germany fail to win by at least three goals in their last home game with Bulgaria.

Soviets book Mexico ticket

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union overcame swirling snow, sub-zero temperatures, a capricious wind and a defiant Norwegian side to become the 16th nation to qualify for the 1986 World Cup soccer finals Wednesday.

The Russians, needing two points to be certain of filling one of the two Group Six qualifying places, achieved that goal with a merited win but they had to fight all the way for their 1-0 victory.

Only the inspired goalkeeping of Renat Dasyev denied the gallant Norwegians at times, although striker Georgy Kondratyev was the man responsible for securing the Russians' passage to Mexico with a 58th minute winner.

Norway made nonsense of their position at the foot of the section with a spirited display and they adapted better to the icy conditions which called for the use of a red ball on the snow-covered pitch.

The Soviets were fortunate to go in level at halftime after Das-



MINISTER OF YOUTH: Hisham Al Sharari addresses a press conference during which he announced the inauguration of an annual meeting to plan sport policy in Jordan (Petra photo)

Sharari calls for meeting to plan the future of sport in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Youth and Jordanian Olympic Committee Chairman Hisham Al Sharari said that a general meeting for sport institutions will be held annually under the motto "Jordanian Sport: Reality and Aspirations."

Speaking during a press conference held at the committee's headquarters Thursday, the minister said that the date for the first general meeting will be held in December to discuss a number of working papers prepared by specialised committees for this purpose. These working papers deal with sport legislations, training, refereeing in Jordan, sports administration, financing of the sport movement, sports medicine, sports information, as well as fem-

ale, military, school and university sport.

The meeting will be aimed at getting acquainted with the reality and aspirations of the sport movement in Jordan to discover its problems and overcome negative aspects in order to achieve the broad goals which every citizen in this country aspires. As this year's sports activities draw to an end and planning for the future begins.

"We need to review all our past efforts and works, looking forward to a more advanced and developed future," the minister said.

Mr. Sharari added that the ministry's call for this general meeting for sport activists is aimed at enabling all those in charge of sport to express their opinions and to talk about their problems and aspirations very frankly. The minister went on to say that 14 specialised committees began on Friday to prepare the working papers which will be discussed during the three-day meeting to come up with recommendations for all parties concerned. These recommendations, the minister affirmed, will be supported by the ministry and will be the basis for a long-term plan for our sports development at the internal and external levels to reach the common goals of the Jordanian sport movement.

The minister also called on private sector companies and corporations to support the sport and youth sector.

Arab World no fun for Mexico

By Phil Davison
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — Mexico's World Cup soccer squad, carrying the hopes of the home nation in the run-up to next year's finals, have returned home in near-disgrace after their recent tour of North Africa and the Middle East.

The Mexicans, whose fans want nothing short of their first World Cup triumph in 1986, had hoped to build up confidence with six matches against teams they considered little more than target practice.

They went, they played, but they failed to conquer. Mexico managed one win — against North Yemen — a victory which led one newspaper to carry the headline: "Do You Know Where North Yemen Is? Well, You Should... They're the Ones We Beat."

The other results produced defeats at the hands of Libya and Egypt and draws against Jordan, Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

All six matches were shown on television and watched with interest in the famed cantinas (bars) of Mexico.

While many Mexicans shrugged off the results, saying things would be different next summer, the national press lambasted the World Cup hopefuls.

"Give them zero for skill, zero for technique, zero for tactics, zero for fitness, zero for commitment," said one radio com-

mentator. "And zero times anything makes zero... that's what this team adds up to."

The daily papers described the tour as anything between a failure and disaster. Some said it should have been cancelled after last month's devastating earthquake, arguing the players could not have been psychologically ready after such a tragedy.

At least 7,000 people died in the quake and hundreds of buildings fell, but none of the country's World Cup stadiums were damaged and the Mexicans are working to get communications back in time for the football extravaganza.

Every possible excuse was put forward by Mexican soccer officials: Artificial pitches, the searing temperatures, the humidity, the poor refereeing.

Even the low altitude was cited, an ironic twist since many other World Cup teams are worried about playing at high altitude in Mexico.

Another problem the Mexicans faced was that the tour turned out to be anything but "friendly." The dying minutes of the match against Egypt in Cairo, which the home side won 2-1, was a singularly distasteful affair.

After the Egyptians had taught the Mexicans a lesson in attacking football, defender Abdul Magdi Ghani appeared to forget it was a soccer match and insisted on demonstrating his karate kick expertise on whichever Mexican player

was within reach. He was eventually dragged from the pitch by Egyptian security forces.

But none of the excuses hid the fact the Mexicans played poorly, albeit without key striker Hugo Sanchez of Real Madrid. But even Sanchez, a national hero in Mexico and seen several times every hour on television advertisements would have been hard pressed to shine.

Mexican team manager Boris Milutinovic was philosophical when he faced the music at a press conference Wednesday.

Milutinovic, a Yugoslav who has spent most of his footballing career in Mexico, said his "muchachos" (lads) went to North Africa and the Middle East to learn, rather than to win.

"The tour was aimed at finding out as much as possible about teams in that area, so that nothing surprises us in the World Cup," the manager, who sports a 1960s-style "beats" haircut, declared. "The World Cup will be a different matter," said Milutinovic, widely respected by pressmen as an accessible and honest manager.

At the same press conference, Mexican Football Federation President Rafael Del Castillo denied the tour was a failure and added: "We are at a moment when the team must be supported by the people... we must all work together to accomplish something we've never before achieved — winning the World Cup."

Paris Saint-Germain seeks record victory

LONDON (R) — Paris Saint-Germain could be without striker Dominique Rocheteau away to Monaco on Saturday when they seek to equal the French soccer record of 18 games without defeat.

There are fears that Rocheteau, who had to be substituted after scoring a hat-trick in France's 6-0 thrashing of Luxembourg in Wednesday night's World Cup qualifying match, may have broken a bone in his left hand.

Goalkeeper Joel Bats and midfielder Luis Fernandez, the other PSG players in action Wednesday night, are likely to have a more testing time than they did against Luxembourg.

Monaco, sixth in the first division, are particularly strong on the left flank where full-back Manuel Amoros and Rocheteau's

second-half substitute Bruno Belone can cause havoc.

PSG, seeking to match the record run of 18 unbeaten games held by Saint-Etienne and Strasbourg, lead the table with 30 points from 17 games — seven points ahead of Nantes and Bordeaux, both of whom are expected to win at home.

Nantes, who entertain mid-table Rennes, have strikers Jose Touré and Vahid Halilhodzic in good form and have every chance of furthering their UEFA Cup ambitions against Partizan, Belgrade next Wednesday following a first-leg draw in Yugoslavia.

West German league leaders Werder Bremen are hoping striker Rudi Voeller, sidelined by an ankle injury for almost a month, will be fit again for the difficult game away to fourth-placed Bayer Leverkusen.

Without Voeller, described by trainer Otto Rehagel as the team's "first violin," Werder have looked shaky in recent games despite continuing to accumulate points.

If they slip against Bayer, who are unbeaten at home, second-placed Borussia Moenchengladbach — two points behind — are poised to pounce.

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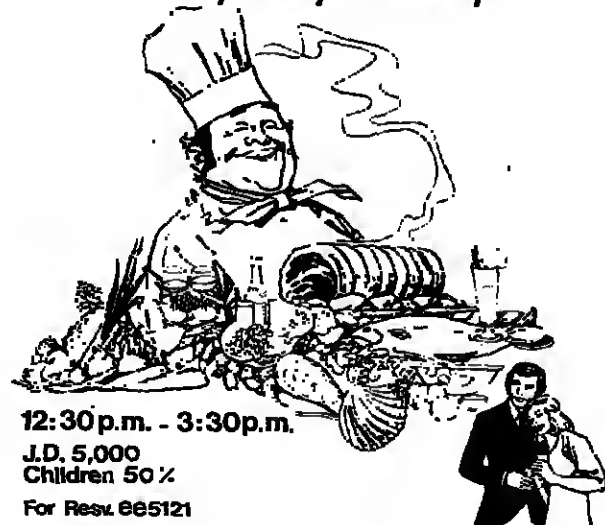
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كندا مع الامارات

Economy

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

One sterling	1.4370/85	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3673/78	Canadian dollars
	2.6070/80	West German marks
	2.9395/410	Dutch guilders
	2.1410/25	Swiss francs
	52.80/85	Belgian francs
	7.9400/50	French francs
	1761/1764	Italian lire
	209/57/5	Japanese yen
	7.8475/525	Swedish crowns
	7.8565/615	Norwegian crowns
	9.4525/75	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	324.50/325.00	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Shares prices closed below the highest levels in quiet trading, with some profit-taking noted after early U.S. demand and stock shortages sent the market to a new high. Dealers said.

The FTSE 100 share index at 1530 GMT was up 3.1 at 1380.3, having touched a new high at 1380.3 earlier on Friday. Glaxo ended 5p higher at 1485, having touched 1507 and ICI was 25p up at 674 after 682. Distillers rose 15p to 463. Thorn EMI gained 10p to 377 and BOC added 6p to 297.

Gold shares were lower in reaction to the continued weakness of the South African rand and North Americans were mixed. Oils were depressed following reports that the Abu Dhabi oil minister said OPEC members are free to sell oil at any price. The OPEC chairman later said there had been no change in OPEC's pricing policy. B.P. at 563 and Shell at 683 both shed 7p.

Midland Bank closed unchanged at 452, having fluctuated between 457 and 447p on persistent bid speculation, with various candidates rumored. Midland declined comment but banking sources thought an offer would be unlikely.

Tin and associated shares remained depressed by the unresolved tin crisis, with Gevoor Tin down 9p at 100 and Dalgety 5p cheaper at 440. Government bonds were little changed.

Jordan extends \$5 million credit facilities to Djibouti

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will grant Djibouti credit facilities through the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) to help finance Djibouti's imports of Jordanian products, in accordance with an agreement signed by the two sides in Amman on Thursday.

Under the agreement, a special \$5 million credit line will be opened at the CBJ on which Djibouti can draw to pay for goods it will import from Jordan for a period of six months, and also to pay for services to be rendered by Jordanian contractors and for transport facilities.



Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Hussein Al-Jasem (second from right) and Djibouti Industry Minister Fahmi Al-Haj sign \$5m. credit agreement on Thursday. Also present is Dr. Maher Shukri, CBJ deputy governor, (far right). (Petra photo).

replay the credit in U.S. dollars to the CBJ at the end of the six months, and failing to do so, a six per cent annual interest will accumulate on the loan.

The agreement was signed for Jordan by CBJ Governor Hussein Al-Jasem, and for Djibouti by its minister of industry, Mr. Fahmi Al-Haj.

Dollar falls steeply against yen, dealers warn of recession in Japan

TOKYO (R) — The dollar hit a 4-1/2 year low against the yen Friday as some currency dealers began to forecast economic recession in Japan if the yen grows too strong and squeezes export industries.

The dollar ended at 209.85 yen, its lowest since March 1981 as the Bank of Japan sold dollars for yen towards the end of the day, completing the afternoon rout of the U.S. currency, dealers said.

The U.S. economy has been suffering severely for various reasons including a high dollar rate against the yen," said Mr. Takashi Okura, chief dealer at Bank of America.

record low against the yen was 175.50 in 1978.

If the yen grows too strong, Japan's export-driven economy could seize up as its goods get too expensive for world markets, dealers said.

In September, five major industrial nations — the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Japan — agreed to depress the overvalued dollar. It has fallen about 32 yen since then.

Japan's big securities houses ignored currency movements Friday and chose to sell some of the huge bond holdings they have accumulated, traders said.

Bank of Japan Governor Satoshi Sumita underlined Japan's determination to continue the policy when he told parliament Friday the yen must appreciate further against the dollar to reflect better Japan's economic position. A low yen has made Japanese products look cheap abroad and created a trade surplus with the United States that economists

The stock market, which is affected by both currency and bond markets, meanwhile plummeted with the market average dropping 128.37 to close at 12,808.10. It had been down 191.52 at one stage Friday.

"It looked like 'the end' at one point but after all when prices go low enough buying orders come out," one stockbroker said.

Zhao sees world economic system as obstacle to growth

BRASILIA (R) — Chinese Premier Zhao Ziyang said Thursday night the current international economic system was an obstacle to Third World growth.

debt countries to repay should be strengthened and their debt burden lightened.

"It is regrettable that the unjust international economic order continues to obstruct the growth of the countries of the Third World," he told a banquet held in his honor.

The restructuring of the unfair world financial and trade system was fundamental to resolving debt problems, Mr. Zhao said.

Peking hoped creditor countries and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), for the sake of the future world economy and the principle of payment through development, would adopt a sensible attitude and seek solutions in consultation with debt countries, he added.

Mr. Zhao arrived from Colombia on Wednesday for a five-day visit. He will go on to Argentina and Venezuela before returning home.

British jobless rate declines

LONDON (R) — British unemployment fell from record levels last month with the number of people out of work down by almost 70,000, the government announced Thursday.

The jobless total fell from September's record 3.34 million to 3.27 million, or from 13.8 to 13.5 per cent of the work force.

Employment Secretary Lord Young called the figures "mildly encouraging," but said they did not signal an end to Britain's rising jobless trend. He warned that recent high pay deals were threatening to choke off the country's economic recovery.

Opinion polls have recently identified high unemployment as the main issue worrying voters.

Oil pricing free for all, UAE minister declares

ABU DHABI (R) — A leading OPEC oil minister has indicated a free-for-all in setting oil prices, prompting some analysts to predict a drop in prices, but the announcement had little immediate impact on the spot oil market.



Dr. Mana Said Oteiba, a leading OPEC oil minister, speaking at a press conference.

The minister, Dr. Mana Said Oteiba, of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), said in a television interview Thursday night: "Starting from now, each producer is free to sell its oil at any price."

Ecuador had not been told of any decision freeing OPEC members to set their own prices, but added that price-setting is a part of a country's sovereignty.

OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) has formally said its 13 members must adhere to official price and production levels, but price discounting has been widespread in the face of an oil glut.

Indonesia's state-owned oil company Pertamina was unaware of any change in OPEC's pricing policy, a spokesman said, but added: "If this is true, it's big."

Dr. Oteiba, chairman of the OPEC market monitoring committee, declared: "As from the recent meeting of OPEC (in Vienna in September) each country was free to fix its prices as it wished."

Oil traders in Japan said they were puzzled why he would make such a statement at a time when the spot oil market was currently strong — and could be undermined.

The statement caused oil buyers in spot markets in the United States and Asia to move to the sidelines, but prices for Middle East crudes held steady in early trading.

"We cannot understand why Oteiba would make this statement now," one said.

Other OPEC members did not immediately confirm any official change in the organization's pricing policy.

Some analysts suggested he may have been trying to get OPEC to use restraint in filling a winter upturn in oil demand.

But some of his remarks were directed at non-OPEC oil producers, criticising them for not cooperating in the defence of oil prices and charging that they ben-

efitted from OPEC sacrifices. "They were looking at the matter from a short-term and selfish point of view," he said.

Some oil executives in the United States and Asia said they thought the statement merely confirmed reality and would have little immediate impact.

"Forget it, prices may fall next year, but they are still very strong today," a European oil trader in Singapore said.

The announcement did have an effect on Australian shares, which suffered their sharpest fall since mid-1983. Currency dealers in Tokyo also said the statement added to a rise in the yen against the dollar, since it might lower Japan's oil bills.

British, French governments start review of channel plans

LONDON (R) — Britain and France Friday faced a choice of up to 12 projects to build a fixed link, such as a tunnel or a bridge, across the channel dividing Britain from continental Europe.

When a deadline for applications passed at midnight Thursday night nine proposals had been submitted in London and three in Paris but it was not clear if any had been handed over to both capitals.

A decision is due early next year and a target completion date set for the mid-1990s.

Transport Secretary Nicholas Ridley said Thursday that all proposals which complied with guidelines, including making a deposit of £175,000 (\$252,000) in each country, would receive a fair hearing.

The idea of a fixed link across the channel, first put forth in 1802 by Napoleon, has the backing of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and French President Francois Mitterrand as long as neither government has to pay for it.

Two Anglo-French consortia, the Channel Tunnel Group and Euroroute, have made the most prominent submissions.

The Channel Tunnel group is proposing a £2.3 billion (\$3.2 billion) 50-kilometre twin tunnel with a fast rail shuttle between Folkestone and Calais.

Euroroute, whose backers include Barclays Bank, proposes a £5.2 billion (\$7.5 billion) rail and road link with bridges, artificial islands and a 21-kilometre tunnel.

Other submissions have been made by the Sea Containers shipping conglomerate, groups known as Eurobridge and Euro-link and a company called A.D. Developments. One bid was tagged "Less Pons sur la Manche".

Sea Containers, owner of the British ferry operation Sealink which had actively campaigned against a fixed link, said it was making its bid after recognising the degree of political impetus now behind the project.

Just after the deadline had passed, a British transport ministry spokesman told Reuters that, along with proposals by major Anglo-French consortia, ideas had come from men identified only as Mr. McCulloch and Mr. Stoodley.

Xinhua, Burson-Marsteller launch joint venture

AMMAN (Agencies) — A subsidiary of Xinhua (New China News Agency), China Media Development Inc. (CMDI), has recently announced that it has entered into a relationship with Burson-Marsteller, the world's largest public relations firm, to provide a commercial public relations service to corporations doing business with the People's Republic of China (PRC), both inside and outside the country.

China Global Public Relations will be established specifically for the purposes of this cooperative agreement by CMDI, the marketing arm of Xinhua News Agency.

China Global Public Relations will exclusively represent Burson-Marsteller throughout the PRC, using the resources of Xinhua's offices in all 29 provinces.

Burson-Marsteller will represent China Global Public Relations in the 20 countries in which it has offices.

Burson-Marsteller, founded in the United States in 1953, serves over 500 corporate and institutional clients on a local, regional and international basis. The company, whose 1984 worldwide fee income was over \$84 million, has been doing business in China since 1978 through its Hong Kong subsidiary.

In the Middle East, Burson-Marsteller established a joint venture company in 1979 with Intermarkets, the largest advertising agency in the region. The company, Burson-Marsteller-Intermarkets, has a seven-office network operating in Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and UAE.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, NOV. 2, 1985
GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day to avoid allowing your feelings to get hurt by arguing with someone. Consider what your ambitions are and consider a course of action to make them a part of your life.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Fundamental affairs could be extended in the morning, but later you may wonder if you did right.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Come to a finer understanding with partners, and then handle routine affairs which could be a little difficult.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Try not to spend more than you can afford in the morning, but later you can make bigger plans for the days ahead.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You may think you are being imposed upon, but cast that out of your mind, and then you will get what you want.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You have some private worries that could cause you to act irrationally, if you permit. Be objective and handle such matters well.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Don't overdo, but plan how to gain your ambitions wisely. Try not to be angry with good friends; you are just tired.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Do nothing that can jeopardize your position. If a bigwig gives you a bad time, say nothing; blame it on the planets.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You are in the mood for expansion and can study ways and means for such, but don't take action as yet.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Not a good day to reach important decisions since you are relying only on your intuition.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) You have to use tact with a partner who is irate today or there can be real trouble between you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Although you are not in the mood for work, you had better get at it efficiently and reap the benefits.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You had better be content with simple pleasures since the elaborate ones are beyond your means right now.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she will need much encouragement in order to accomplish a great deal. One who will be fine at helping others out of dilemmas and have much compassion for fellow man. Teach to be more objective so as not to develop a martyr complex. One who needs good spiritual training.

THE Daily Crossword by Elaine George

ACROSS
1 Flower holders
4 Canine call
10 Revolver
14 City in NY
15 Together
16 In music
18 Silhouette
19 Puzzler's helpmate
20 Slave
21 Krazy
22 Kooky type
23 Happy
24 Expressions
25 Globe section
26 Properties
28 A Canisid
30 Recumbent
34 Fork points
36 Threshold
37 Wind dir.
38 Certain
40 Himalayan cedars
42 Leather tool
43 Colleague
45 On the (adjective)
46 Muscle knacker
48 Soaking wet
49 Outgrowth
51 Agitate
54 Gentle breeze
57 Betrayed
58 Pig — pork
60 A Gander
61 Scold
62 Crowd's dir.
63 Ancient Gr.
64 City
65 Tropical
66 Other plant
67 Snowd prof.
68 One
69 Though question
70 Script
71 From, drink
72 Pan game
73 Carful nation
74 Here a noun
75 Lesser child
76 Change of hem

DOWN
1 Machine accessory
2 Rabbit play
3 Second base
10 Cornet
11 Spot
12 — rickety
13 Circuits
17 Novelties
18 Salm's static
21 Shooting stars
25 Dhaka
27 Novelties
28 Creek
31 Puts back on the job
32 With regard to
33 Old Irish tax
34 Trolley
35 Devoport's state
36 — said true
39 Derivatives
41 Entrance
44 Manager of a kind
47 Globe
48 Tazewell, tree
50 George M. —
52 Fireplace in Eng.
53 Kind of beam
54 Cipher
55 God of love
56 Land map
58 Tickle
62 Hgt.
63 Equus prof.

Peanuts

THIS IS MY REPORT ON HALLEY'S COMET WHICH WILL BE COMING BY THE EARTH SOON...

UNFORTUNATELY, IT WILL BE DOWN NEAR THE HORIZON, AND WE WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE IT VERY WELL...

ACTUALLY, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO SEE IT MUCH BETTER ON TV SOMETIME IN THE MONTH OF MARCH

UNLESS, OF COURSE, YOU'RE WATCHING SATURDAY MORNING CARTOONS...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

YOUR HONOR, THESE GUYS RAN OVER ME WITH THEIR CAR!

WE WERE ONLY DOING FOUR MILES AN HOUR!

THINK OF IT, YOUR HONOR, I THINK OF THE SLOW AND LONG TORTURE AND AGONY I SUFFERED AS THIS NUT DROVE OVER MY BODY AT FOUR MILES AN HOUR!

WELL, WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY?

I DIDN'T WANT TO GET CAUGHT SPEEDING!

Andy Capp

LOVELY PARTY, ADA. CAN I GIVE YOU A HAND TO TIDY UP?

THANKS, FLO.

WHAT DO YOU DO ABOUT THE LEFTOVERS?

I USUALLY CALL A CAB, FLO, BUT I'LL LEAVE YOUR BLOKE TO YOU.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris

Copyright 1985 Cowles Syndicate Inc.

"Stop letting your boss walk all over you"

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

FOMIT

VENOW

LOPARR

RALFOL

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: HUMAN BRASS CUDDLE TEAPOT

Answer: What he was when he saw that tree trunk right in the middle of the road — "STUMPED"

Sikh hardliners launch protest march in Punjab

CHANDIGARH, India (R) — About 1,000 hardline Sikh youths began a 250-kilometre march Friday from the holy city of Amritsar to the Punjab capital of Chandigarh to protest against the state's moderate Sikh government.

Witnesses said crowds of turbaned marchers tramping out of the city included 12-year-old Ishar Singh, son of dead extremist leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, a fiery Sikh preacher and leader of Sikh secessionists, who was killed in a savage battle at Amritsar's Golden Temple in June last year.

The fighting between troops and Sikh extremists, named Operation Bluestar by the Indian army, may have prompted the killing of India Gandhi a year ago. Her Sikh bodyguards have been blamed for the murder.

While millions of Indians held memorial services Thursday to mark the first anniversary of the assassination, hardline Sikh students Thursday night held a counter-demonstration in Amritsar.

Wielding hammers and axes, students battered down railings around one of the temple buildings, the Akal Takht. The golden-domed seat of the sect's highest religious order was badly damaged in last year's shrine bat-

tle. The All India Sikh Students Federation (AISSF), which organised the temple protest and Friday's march, has presented Punjab's newly-elected government with three demands.

It wants all Sikh prisoners freed from jail and demands the rebuilding of the Golden Temple. Militant Sikhs say hurried repairs to the shrine after last year's battle were not carried out in accordance with religious procedures.

The students have also called for the reinstatement of several hundred Sikh soldiers who mutinied immediately after Operation Bluestar.

The militant challenge came as Punjab's new Sikh government was under fire from India's ruling Congress (I) Party.

A group of Congress (I) parliamentarians Thursday told Home (Interior) Minister S.B. Chavan they were concerned at the large number of Sikh prisoners released from jail.

More than 1,000 people held under special security powers in

connection with the Sikh extremist campaign have been released by the Punjab government since it took office a month ago. Punjab Chief Minister Surjit Barnala set up a committee to review cases of political prisoners in a bid to restore public confidence after three years of extremist violence in the state.

Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi told a parade of paramilitary troops near New Delhi Friday that better, specialised training was needed to combat terrorism and insurgency in India, the Press Trust of India (PTI) reported.

The agency quoted Mr. Gandhi as telling the 46th anniversary parade of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) that the answer to insurgency, communal riots and terrorism lay in effective training and not greater numbers.

Paramilitary forces and the army have often been ordered to help police cope with religious feuding, separatist guerrilla campaigns in north east India and extremist attacks in Punjab.

Mr. Gandhi told the parade that efforts would be made to reduce the role of the CRPF and paramilitary Border Security Force in law and order duties, PTI said.

India has more than one million men in the armed forces and more than 200,000 paramilitary troops.

Mengistu, Gorbachev hold talks

MOSCOW (R) — Ethiopian leader Mengistu Haile Mariam, on an official visit to Moscow, began talks Friday with Soviet Communist Party chief Mikhail Gorbachev. TASS news agency reported.

Col. Mengistu arrived Thursday for consultations expected to concentrate on Soviet economic and military aid to Ethiopia, a close Soviet ally.

The official news agency said President Andrei Gromyko and Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov attended Friday's session.

Col. Mengistu was last in Moscow in March, when he attended the funeral of President Konstantin Chernenko. He also held talks with the Kremlin last December that focused on aid to relieve Ethiopia's drought.

Moscow is a major arms supplier to Ethiopia, which is fighting a protracted campaign against secessionists in Eritrea.

The conflict was one of five regional issues that President Reagan offered last week to discuss with Mr. Gorbachev at their summit in Geneva this month.

Thursday's Communist Party daily Pravda carried a glowing front-page biography of Col. Mengistu, praising him for making "a great personal contribution to the consolidation of Soviet-Ethiopian relations," formalised in a 1978 treaty.

Study shows superpowers prepare to deploy new nuclear weapons

LONDON (R) — The United States and Soviet Union have in the past year laid the groundwork for the deployment of new and deadlier nuclear systems, the International Institute for Strategic Studies said Friday.

Publishing its annual review, the Military Balance 1985/86, the London-based institute concluded: "While there have been no dramatic changes in the past year in the deployed nuclear weapon systems on either side, both superpowers will be deploying new systems over the next few years at the same time as they are improving the nuclear weapons first deployed in the 1970s and early 1980s."

The U.S. was deploying nuclear armed sea-launched cruise missiles and air-launched cruise missiles while proceeding with development of the MX intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) which was scheduled for deployment next year, the report said.

The first squadron of a new generation of strategic bombers, the B-1B, was also expected to become operational next year, considerably boosting U.S. nuclear delivery capacity.

The Soviet Union last year announced an 11.8 per cent increase in official defence spending, its biggest rise in 25 years, and stepped up modernisation of its nuclear arsenal.

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger recently said the Sov-

iet Union had deployed mobile SS-25 missiles. The institute said a second mobile missile, the SS-24, was also close to deployment, first in silos and then possibly in mobile launchers.

Moscow had introduced new ground-based interceptor missiles and might have redeployed missiles previously sited in Central Asia to face Western Europe, the report said.

The institute said there had been a 37 per cent rise in the number of Soviet strategic nuclear warheads over the past three years compared to a 10 per cent rise in U.S. warheads.

The U.S. now had 10,174 strategic nuclear warheads with an estimated yield of 3,625 megatonnes. The Soviet Union had at least 9,987 warheads yielding about 5,837 megatonnes.

Turning to conventional forces in Europe, the institute said the Warsaw Pact had in the past year maintained a numerical advantage over NATO while progressively matching its technology.

The institute said: "The West has largely lost the technological edge in conventional equipment which allowed NATO to believe that quality could substitute for numbers."

It said Western European countries were spending more on improving ammunition stocks and infrastructure, making it more difficult to finance technological advances.

But the overall balance would make general military aggression a highly risky undertaking for either side.

Elsewhere in the world, orders for new military equipment appeared to be declining, the report said.

In the Middle East, the dominant trend had been the spread of increasingly sophisticated weapons to Islamic militias beyond state control. This development, especially in Lebanon, boded ill for future peace, the report said.

In the Gulf war, the institute said Iraq's predominance in material continued to balance Iran's numerical superiority.

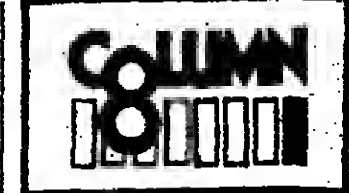
Iraqi financial reserves were exhausted and Baghdad's only hope of breaking the stalemate appeared to lie in attacking Iranian civilian and military targets.

In South Africa, the institute predicted an increase in the defence burden and said it was unclear whether the economy would be able to stand the strain.

The report said China was reducing its armed forces by up to a million men and intended upgrade the quality of its forces. But the pace of modernisation was likely to be slow.

In Afghanistan, the report noted a small increase in Soviet occupation forces but concluded that the military and political costs of the war were insufficient to force an early withdrawal.

The report said many Latin American countries had been forced by economic pressures to cut defence expenditure.



Man convicted in sex slave trial

REDWOOD CITY, California (R) — A man found guilty of kidnapping and keeping a woman as his sexual slave for more than seven years is to appeal against his conviction, the man's lawyer said. Lumber mill worker Cameron Hooker, 31, was convicted Thursday of kidnapping, rape, sodomy and other sexual crimes against Colleen Stan, a young hitch-hiker he abducted at knife-point in 1977. After the jury of eight women and four men reached their verdict, Hooker's defence attorney Roland Papendick said his client was upset at the outcome and would be appealing. The jury remained deadlocked on one of the 11 charges, that Hooker raped Stan in 1984 while his wife Janice was present, jury foreman James Hogan said. Hooker, who on Nov. 22 faces a sentence of up to 75 years in prison, slumped back in his chair as he heard the verdict. Trial judge Clarence Knight told the jury: "You've done justice. I certainly agree with your verdict."

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Singapore releases Jumbo stripper

SINGAPORE (R) — A man who wandered through a crowded Jumbo jet dressed only in a cardigan has been released after an examination by Singapore psychiatrists, police said. A senior police official said the 47-year-old man, who held a British passport, had left the country for an unknown destination. He surfaced on Oct. 20 and tried to open one of the plane's doors at 35,000 feet (11,000 metres) saying "I'm getting off this bus." "We did not file any charges against him because the incident took place on board an aircraft outside Singapore," the officer said. "He is also not a local citizen."

Youths smash Ireland's 'moving' statue

BALLINSPITTLE, Ireland (R) — Three youths wielding axes and sledgehammers destroyed Ireland's celebrated "moving" statue as worshippers knelt before it. The statue of the Virgin Mary in a roadside corner outside this tiny country Cork village has attracted huge crowds since a group of local people claimed to have seen it move last August. The report was followed by similar reports from other parts of the country. Police said three youths driving a car stolen in Dublin arrived at the grotto and smashed the statue after telling a group of 30 people, including nuns: "You stupid people worshipping a plaster statue."

Indonesia looks for best flatterer

JAKARTA (R) — Indonesia is staging a national contest to find the best silver-tongued flatterer on any subject except sex. The country, whose language is littered with courteous compliments, will give competitors of all ages four minutes each to demonstrate their verbal charms — even on ways to wheedle pay rises. The official news agency Antara described it as "a competition in flattery for any purpose, except for pornographic aims."

4 killed in 'pot' session blast

MANILA (AP) — Four young men smoking marijuana behind a parked jeep were killed when a hand grenade one of them was playing with exploded, the Philippine News Agency reported Friday. The agency said a pedestrian was wounded in the blast, which occurred before midnight Thursday on a street in the Manila suburb of Caloocan.

Man lost overboard from QE 2

LONDON (R) — An elderly man has been lost overboard from the Queen Elizabeth 2 liner while on a transatlantic crossing, the Cunard shipping line has said. The 67,000-ton ship, two-thirds of the way to Southampton from New York when the accident happened, turned back and searched for the British passenger for an hour before resuming its voyage, a spokesman said. "The chances of the QE 2 ever finding him were totally non-existent after that," he said. The name of the passenger, who was travelling with his wife, was not released.

Blast in Athens bus injures 29

ATHENS (R) — A home-made time bomb exploded in a bus in the centre of Athens wounding 29 people, most of them students, police said Friday.

The blast, at midnight Thursday, destroyed the bus which was on its way to the suburb of Argiroupolis with about 70 passengers. It caught fire after the explosion which damaged several houses.

Fourteen people were detained in hospital and one of them, a woman, was in serious condition.

The blast, in the rear of the bus, caused panic. Some passengers jumped out of windows and others were hurt in the rush to escape from the two exits.

The evening newspaper Eleftherotypia said Friday that an anonymous caller telephoned Thursday night to say a group calling itself "Revolutionary Combatant Left" had planted two bombs in a central Athens street, near the bus terminal. Police searched the area but found nothing.

Witnesses said that early Friday scores of policemen carrying batons and whips and reinforced by soldiers with dogs kept watch on the financial centre, scene of unrest on two previous Fridays.

A white secretary of a school near the city centre told Reuters the police had warned that there could be trouble Friday. They did not specify the kind of trouble they expected.

Cars travelling from the city's black township of Soweto into Johannesburg were checked at a roadblock manned by the army, witnesses said.

Police headquarters in Pretoria said the police presence in the city was "just a crime-prevention operation... not aimed at anything specific."

In a routine bulletin on unrest Friday, police reported stone-throwing, petrol-bombing and arson in the Cape and Natal.

Police say they are holding 1,152 people under emergency powers imposed in July on the troubled eastern Cape and the Johannesburg area and extended to Cape Town last weekend. Detainees can now be held until the end of the emergency, according to a government gazette published Thursday.

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Troops patrol Johannesburg in major security clampdown

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South African soldiers armed with rifles patrolled central Johannesburg Friday in a major security clampdown.

Witnesses said that early Friday scores of policemen carrying batons and whips and reinforced by soldiers with dogs kept watch on the financial centre, scene of unrest on two previous Fridays.

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